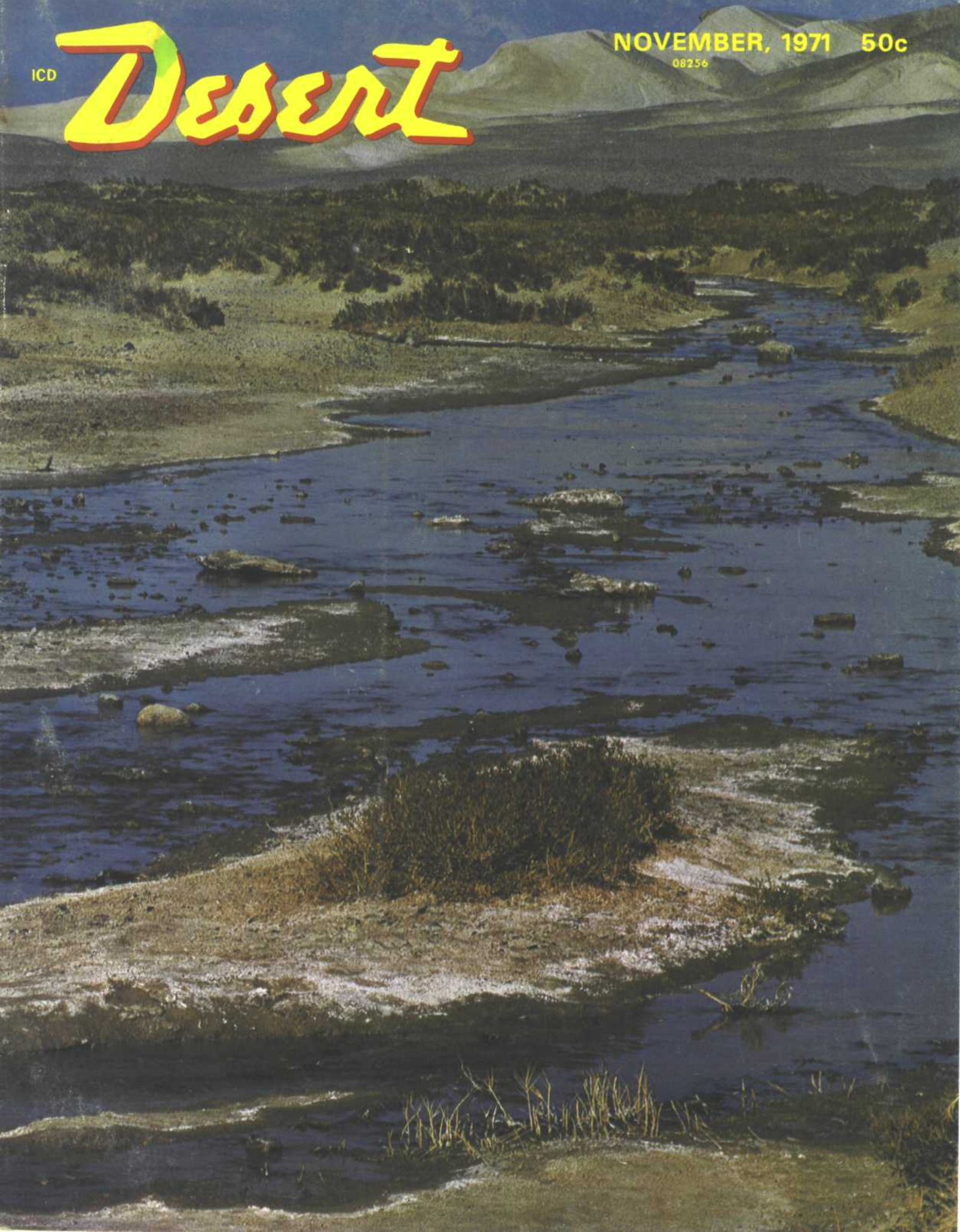


ICD

Desert

NOVEMBER, 1971 50c

08256



Desert Magazine Book Shop

OUT FROM LAS VEGAS by Florine Lawlor. Only a few miles from the gambling casinos and neon lights of Las Vegas are four-wheel-drive trails and passenger car roads rich in history and scenery. Paperback, illustrated, 36 p. \$1.00

LOST MINES OF THE GREAT SOUTHWEST by John D. Mitchell. The first of Mitchell's lost mine books is now available after having been out of print for years. Reproduced from the original copy and containing 54 articles based on accounts from people Mitchell interviewed. He spent his entire adult life investigating reports and legends of lost mines and treasures of the Southwest. Hardcover, illustrated, 175 pages, \$7.50.

OVERLAND STAGE TO CALIFORNIA AND THE PONY EXPRESS by Frank A. Root. A first-hand account of a mail agent who lived and fought with the men who settled the West through their efforts to establish communication across the wilderness during the 1800's. First published in 1901 and just republished. Heavy stock and hardcover, original artist illustrations, two 1800 maps, 645 pages, this is a book for history buffs, \$15.00.

GHOST TOWNS OF THE NORTHWEST by Norman D. Weis. The ghost-town country of the Pacific Northwest including trips to many little-known areas, is explored in this first-hand factual and interesting book. Excellent photography. Best book to date on ghost towns of the Northwest. Maps. Hardcover, heavy slick paper, 319 pages. \$6.95.

BACKPACK COOKERY by Ruth Dyar Mendenhall. Full of good ideas for making the most of dehydrated foods. Paper. \$1.00.

LET'S GO PROSPECTING by Edward Arthur. Facts and how-to-do-it on prospecting are presented by the author who has spent 30 years searching for gems and minerals in California. For those who think there are no more valuables left in California, they will find a new field in this informative book. Includes marketing data, maps, potential buyers for discoveries. Large 8x10 format, illustrated, heavy paperback, 84 pages, \$3.95.

LOST DESERT BONANZAS by Eugene Conrotto. Brief resumes of lost mine articles printed in back issues of DESERT Magazine, by a former editor. Hardcover, 278 pages. \$7.00.

BARBED WIRE HANDBOOK by Thomas E. Turner. Contains 418 different kinds of barbed wire and associated items, described and illustrated with line drawings. Current value prices. Paperback, 102 pages \$3.95.

DEATH VALLEY BOOKS

Published by the Death Valley '49ers these five volumes have been selected by '49ers as outstanding works on the history of Death Valley. All are durable paperback on slick stock.

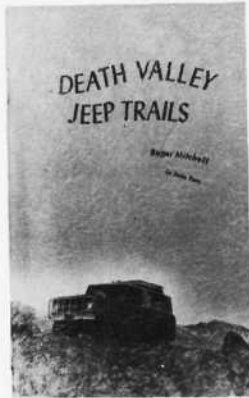
A NATURALIST'S DEATH VALLEY (Revised edition) by Edmund C. Jaeger, ScD.....\$1.50

MANLY AND DEATH VALLEY. Symbols of Destiny, by Ardis Manly Walker\$1.25

GOODBYE, DEATH VALLEY! The story of the Jayhawker Party, by L. Burr Belden.....\$1.50

CAMELS AND SURVEYORS IN DEATH VALLEY By Arthur Woodward\$2.00

DEATH VALLEY TALES by 10 different authors\$1.25



DEATH VALLEY JEEP TRAILS

By ROGER MITCHELL

Although a system of paved roads covers Death Valley National Monument there is even a larger network of back country roads leading to old mining camps, stamp mills and other little-known areas of interest. The author has provided a guide to these places for explorers with back country vehicles. Paperback, illustrated, 35 pages.

\$1.00

50 YEARS IN DEATH VALLEY by Harry P. Gower. First hand account of the dramatic mining years by a man who spent his life in the mysterious valley. Describes the famous characters of Death Valley, Paperback, illustrated, 145 pages, \$2.95

GREENWATER by Harold Weight. Called the "monumental swindle of the century" this is the story of the 1906 stampede to the Black Mountains and how \$30,000,000 disappeared. Paperback, historic photos, 34 pages. \$1.00.

RHYOLITE by Harold Weight. Tales of Shorty Harris, Ernest Cross, Bob Montgomery, M. M. Beaty and the men and women who established the famous mining town near Death Valley. Paperback, historic photos, 40 pages. \$1.00.

INYO MONO JEEP TRAILS by Roger Mitchell. Author of DEATH VALLEY JEEP TRAILS, veteran explorer Mitchell takes you on 18 different 4-wheel-drive trips into the Sierra Nevada Mountains, where he explores ghost towns, Indian territory and scenic canyons and mountain passes. Paperback, 36 pages, illust., \$1.00.

PALM CANYONS OF BAJA CALIFORNIA by Randall Henderson. The beautiful palm canyons and isolated areas of Baja California are described by the late Randall Henderson, founder of DESERT Magazine. Although these are his personal adventures many years ago, little has changed and his vivid writing is alive today as it was when he first saw the oases. Paperback, illustrated, 72 pages, \$1.95.

MINES OF DEATH VALLEY by L. Burr Belden. About fabulous bonanzas, prospectors and lost mines. Paperback. \$1.95.

EXPLORING DEATH VALLEY by Ruth Kirk. Good photos and maps with time estimates from place to place and geology, natural history and human interest information included. Paperback. \$1.95.

A LIGHT HEARTED LOOK AT THE DESERT by Chuck Waggin. A delightfully written and illustrated book on desert animals which will be appreciated by both children and adults. The sketches are excellent and, although factual, descriptions make the animals seem like human beings. Large format, heavy quality paper, 94 pages, \$1.95.

DESERT GEM TRAILS by Mary Frances Strong. Field guide to gems and minerals of the Mohave and Colorado deserts and adjacent areas. Paperback, \$2.00

NEVADA GHOST TOWNS AND MINING CAMPS by Stanley W. Paher. Covering all of Nevada's 17 counties, Paher has documented 575 mining camps, many of which have been erased from the earth. The book contains the greatest and most complete collection of historic photographs of Nevada ever published. This, coupled with his excellent writing and map, creates a book of lasting value. Large 9x11 format, 700 photographs, hardcover, 492 pages, \$15.00.

BOTTLE COLLECTOR'S HANDBOOK by John T. Yount. Contains a listing of 1850 bottles and their market value (including the prized Jim Beams), where to sell and buy, identifications, etc. Although contains few illustrations, it has more listings than any other bottle book. Paperback, 89 pages, \$3.95.

HELLDORADO by William Breakenridge. One of the most famous law enforcement officers of the Old West describes his life and gives first-hand accounts of the famous outlaws and lawmen he knew. First published in 1928 and long out-of-print, now available. Hardcover, illustrated, 1883 map of Arizona Territory, 255 pages, \$7.50.

MOCKEL'S DESERT FLOWER BOOK by Henry and Beverly Mockel. The well-known painter of desert wildflowers has combined his four-color sketches and black and white photographs to describe in detail so the layman can easily identify wildflowers, both large and small. Microscopic detail makes this an outstanding book for identification. Special compressed fiber cover which will not stain. 54 full-color illustrations with 72 life-size drawings and 39 photographs, 316 pages, \$5.95.

NEVADA'S TURBULENT YESTERDAYS by Don Ashbaugh. The best book about Nevada's ghost towns and the rugged individuals who built them. 346 pages, \$7.95.

GHOST TOWNS OF ARIZONA by James E. and Barbara Sherman. Well illustrated and including 13 maps, book describes 130 ghost towns with exact locations. Well-written and researched. Excellent historical photographs. Large format, heavy paperback, 208 pages, \$3.95.

WHEN ORDERING BOOKS PLEASE

Add 50 cents PER ORDER
(Not Each Book)

for handling and mailing

**CALIFORNIA RESIDENTS ALSO
ADD 5 PERCENT SALES TAX**

Send check or money order to Desert Magazine Book Shop, Palm Desert, California 92260. Sorry, but we cannot accept charges or C.O.D. orders.

WILLIAM KNYVETT, PUBLISHER
JACK PEPPER, EDITOR

MARY FRANCES STRONG, *Field Trip Editor*
ENID C. HOWARD, *Utah Associate Editor*
GLENN VARGAS, *Lapidary Editor*
K. L. BOYNTON, *Naturalist*
JACK DELANEY, *Staff Writer*



Volume 34, Number 11 NOVEMBER, 1971

CONTENTS

FEATURES



THE COVER:
In the heart of Death Valley lie the silent salt flats whose alkaline pools reflect the ever-present sun. This arid region—rich in geology and history—was once a verdant forest with prehistoric mammals. It is truly a Valley of Contrasts as shown in cover photograph by David Muench, Santa Barbara, California.

EXPLORING INYO'S SALINE VALLEY	6	Roger Mitchell
"MEET ME AT THE FOUNTAIN"	10	Mary Frances Strong
NEW MEXICO'S BISTI BADLANDS	16	Enid C. Howard
THE GILA MONSTER	18	K. L. Boynton
DEATH VALLEY PANORAMA	22	Carlos Elmer
"... LIKE A HAWK FLYING"	24	Earl Spendlove
DEATH VALLEY SCOTTY	26	Helen Walker
CAN CALIFORNIA'S DESERTS SURVIVE?	32	Jack Pepper
THE MAN WHO WALKED TO GOLD	36	Lois Wolf Buist

DEPARTMENTS

A PEEK IN THE PUBLISHER'S POKE	4	William Knyvett
BOOK REVIEWS	5	Jack Pepper
CALENDAR OF WESTERN EVENTS	14	Club Activities
DESERT LIFE	14	Hans Baerwald
RAMBLING ON ROCKS	38	Glenn and Martha Vargas
NEW PRODUCTS	42	Items of Interest
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR	43	Reader's Comments

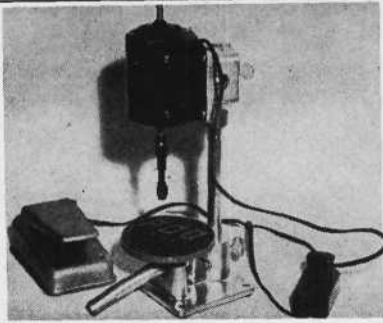
ELTA SHIVELY, *Executive Secretary*

MARVEL BARRETT, *Circulation Manager*

EDITORIAL, CIRCULATION AND ADVERTISING OFFICES: 74-109 Larrea St., Palm Desert, California 92260. Telephone Area Code 714 346-8144. Listed in Standard Rate and Data. SUBSCRIPTION RATES: United States, Canada and Mexico; 1 year, \$5.00; 2 years, \$9.50; 3 years \$13.00. Other foreign subscribers add \$1.00 U.S. currency for each year. See Subscription Order Form in this issue. Allow five weeks for change of address and send both new and old addresses with zip codes. DESERT Magazine is published monthly. Second class postage paid at Palm Desert, California and at additional mailing offices under Act of March 3, 1879. Contents copyrighted 1971 by DESERT Magazine and permission to reproduce any or all contents must be secured in writing. Unsolicited manuscripts and photographs WILL NOT BE RETURNED unless accompanied by a self-addressed and stamped envelope.

P.D.Q.

THE MOST VERSATILE UNIT
ON THE MARKET TODAY!



A Complete Miniature Lapidary Shop, the most versatile unit on the market today. For \$42.50 you get the basic unit.

By adding the items you need, for the work you intend to do, you can drill, saw, grind and polish. Cut all types of cabochons, both carved and plain. Working star rubies and sapphires is a natural with this machine. Do various types of carving in gemstone, wood or glass. You can etch or inlay glass, stone, wood or metal. Do faceting or make buttons. The bead and marble attachment will soon be available. There are buffing attachments for the gold or silversmith. The splitting and wafering saw is the answer to the opal cutter's dream.

The P.D.Q. Gem Drill is ideal for the person with limited space in the home, camper or trailer. There is a battery inverter available that enables you to take your P.D.Q. family with you on vacation. The P.D.Q. Lapidary equipment is compact, sturdy and inexpensive. A booklet of instructions and a guarantee card comes with each machine.

AT WAMPUM WIGWAM



Indian Jewelry is an item of beauty today and a priceless treasure of tomorrow. It is getting more scarce and higher priced as each year goes by and as older silversmiths pass to the "Great Beyond." Wampum Wigwam offers you authentic Indian-made items from the reservations and trading posts of our Southwest. May we send you a selection of Indian jewelry? This enables you to see the merchandise before you buy it. Pay for the items you keep and return the rest. Prices range from \$2.00 tie tacks and up, depending on amount of silver and turquoise in the item. State what items you would like to see—giving ring sizes or other information. Feel free to ask for a selection. We will do our best to help you.

SHIPLEY'S MINERAL HOUSE

On Hwy. 160 in southwest Colorado, 18 miles east of Durango or 1½ miles west of Bayfield.

Mailing Address:

SHIPLEY'S MINERAL HOUSE, Gem Village,
Bayfield D, Colorado 81122
Phone: 303-884-2632

LOTTIE M. SHIPLEY

SEND FOR NEW CATALOG #9



A Peek in the Publisher's Poke

NOVEMBER IS upon us and once again DESERT salutes Death Valley and the '49er Encampment. This once dreaded area is fast becoming one of the summer highlights of many vacationers with an increase in traffic through Death Valley National Monument reported again. The new blacktop airstrip has been completed at Stove Pipe Wells Village and frantic efforts are being made to finish a new campground with approximately 1300 spaces, with water, in time for this year's Encampment, November 11-14.

Editorially we feature two of Death Val-

ley's most famous characters: Death Valley Scotty and Shorty Harris. What a pair these two were! Hardy individuals in an environment that only few could endure. Roger Mitchell takes us to Saline Valley and Carlos Elmer, with his wide-angle lens, gives us two dramatic photos for the center-spread and the incomparable David Muench comes up with a striking cover shot of alkali-encrusted Salt Creek.

This issue also deals with a bill to preserve and protect the California deserts. This is a vital issue and one in which we should all take part. As a case in point, in September we ran an article on the Bruneau Dunes State Park in Idaho. Many types of off-road vehicles were allowed in certain sections of the park at the time the article was written, but during the summer months these areas were completely closed to off-road vehicles. We asked the Idaho Department of Parks for a clarification on the park's closure. The following is quoted from R. P. Peterson, Acting Director of Parks, reply:

"At the time the Bruneau Dunes State Park was established, use by dune buggies and motorcycles was not restricted in any manner. As people became aware of the facilities offered at the new park, our use increased quite noticeably. Dune buggies and motorcycles also increased their use of the area. A definite conflict soon developed and as the area had been developed for general public use, some restriction in the off-road vehicles had to be made. The Parks Department then established an area to the southeast of the Lake and attempted to restrict the vehicle use to this area. The operators of the dune vehicles consistently violated the restriction and the Department finally went to the County Commissioners for an ordinance to prohibit off-road use."

This took place in sparsely-populated Idaho. Imagine what will happen with the millions in California if controls of some sort are not instituted!

An excellent example of multiple-use of the desert is the opening of a 12,000-acre area of public land near Barstow to motorcyclists and other off-road vehicle users. The area lies near the southern limits of Barstow, within a triangle formed by the Barstow Freeway on the west, Barstow Road to the east and Stoddard Wells Road on the south. Maps pinpointing the area are available at a cost of 25 cents, from the Bureau of Land Management office, 1414 University Avenue, Riverside, California.

The area was selected after B.L.M. consulted with an 18-member group called the High Desert Recreation Use Committee, which consists of rockhounds, motorcyclists and other off-road vehicle enthusiasts, commercial interests as well as conservationists, wildlife biologists, law-enforcement agencies and county governments.

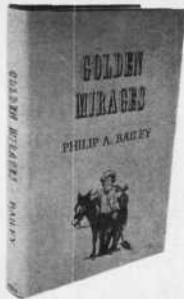
Truly, a step in the right direction, and none too soon!

William Kuyett

Book Reviews

by Jack Pepper

GOLDEN MIRAGES
By
Philip A. Bailey



One of the first and finest books ever compiled on lost mines and buried treasures is once again available after being out of print for more than 20 years.

Majority of the authors of current books on the same subject have used *Golden Mirages* by Philip A. Bailey as one of their main sources of material. First published in 1940, the book was reprinted four times in eight years to fill the demand of lost mine seekers and history buffs.

These are tales and legends of the Southwest gathered by the author during the 30 years he spent wandering throughout and exploring the deserts and mountains, constantly trying to sift fact from fiction. He passed away last year.

It contains the most detailed, exhaustive and objective report ever compiled on the famous Lost Pegleg gold, proving the bonanza was not only a fact, but that there were actually two "Pegleg Smiths" and two sites where the gold was discovered.

Where is the great Mother Lode, the Madre de Oro of the early Spaniards? One family alone paid eleven million dollars to the royal treasury as just one-fifth of their findings for the year; but all the stories agree that the richest mine, where silver lay in great plates, was lost.

Where did the Frenchman get his muleloads of silver? Where is the Lost Mission of Santa Isabel and its treasure of gold and pearls, allegedly hidden by the departing Jesuits?

Golden Mirages is a tremendous and fascinating collection of desert tales, containing the history, legends and personalities of old-timers whom Bailey interviewed and exchanged yarns with as they sat around the campfire. These old-timers and the old-timers they themselves knew have long since gone to the prospectors "happy hunting grounds." It is these first-hand accounts compiled by the author which make the book of such great value.

However, not content with merely taking the tales of old-timers, Bailey spent additional years searching newspaper files and pouring through the pages of old volumes in his meticulous endeavors to separate fact from fiction. The book contains an exhaustive bibliography.

In discussing the authenticity of lost mine legends, Bailey states:

"Regarding lost mines in general, some hard-headed men without imagination or historical knowledge scoff at the stories and say they are just campfire yarns invented by men who had nothing else to do. This is not so. There are many legitimate lost mines. The Lost Gunsight, Breyfogle, Pegleg, Goler, Blue Bucket, Adam Diggings and Whiteman's Cement Mine are all lost mines with such authentic history that there is no doubt of their existence. Bancroft, in his *Native Races*, writes 'Myths are always based on fact, though they may be of such remote antiquity that they are now presented in purely allegorical form.'

"All lost-mine tales leave much to be desired. There are almost always lost links in the chain of events, and he who follows the record has the feeling that someone with an ulterior motive has torn a handful of pages from the most vital part of the story. The fact that these gaps occur is the reason why the mines are lost."

For those who want more information for their search for lost mines and hidden treasures, and for those who want an adventure in reading, *Golden Mirages* is the waybill. Hardcover, illustrated, 353 pages, \$9.95.

CURLERS AND CAMPING
By
Betty Tucker



If you are a woman who feels the call of the wilderness so strongly you will head for the back country sans husband or boy friend, then Betty Tucker has some helpful hints for you.

The veteran explorer, who sometimes camps with her husband and children and often travels alone, has written a small but informative and amusing book based on her experiences.

The author claims that "camping is as natural a function for women as keeping house." And, like keeping house, she says there is the hard way and the easy way.

Her subject matter ranges from where and when to go on trips to how to clean your clothes with a minimum of effort and water. She also has a chapter on protection against both animal and male varmints.

Whether Betty Tucker believes in woman's liberation is a moot question. But for the lonely female out on the lonely desert, the book does have helpful hints. Paperback, illustrated, 36 pages, \$1.00.

Books reviewed may be ordered from the DESERT Magazine Book Order Department, Palm Desert, California 92260. Please include 50c for handling. California residents must add 5% sales tax. Enclose payment with order.

FREE-CATALOG



FUN & PROFIT WITH METAL DETECTORS

Goldak, White's, Precision, Bounty Hunter
Prospecting and Hiking Equipment
Books — Topo Maps

FREE—Indexes for Topo Maps, stock Western states, each state has index.

JACOBSEN SUPPLIERS

9322 California Ave., South Gate, Calif.
Phone 569-8041 90280

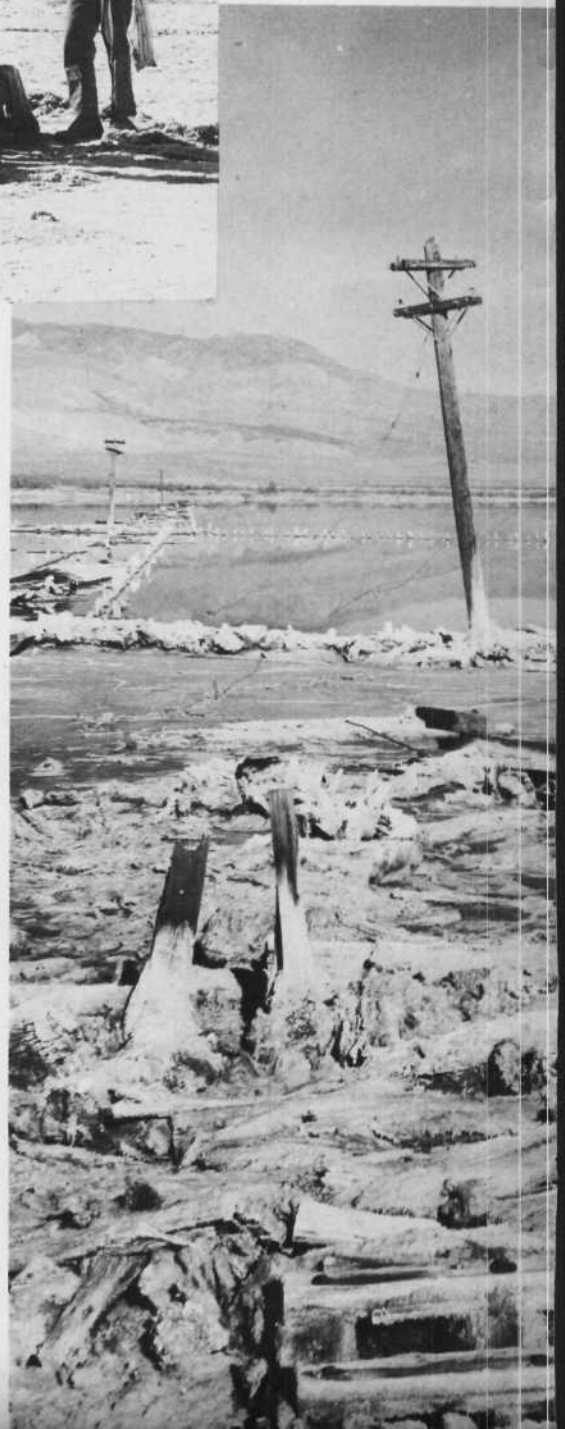
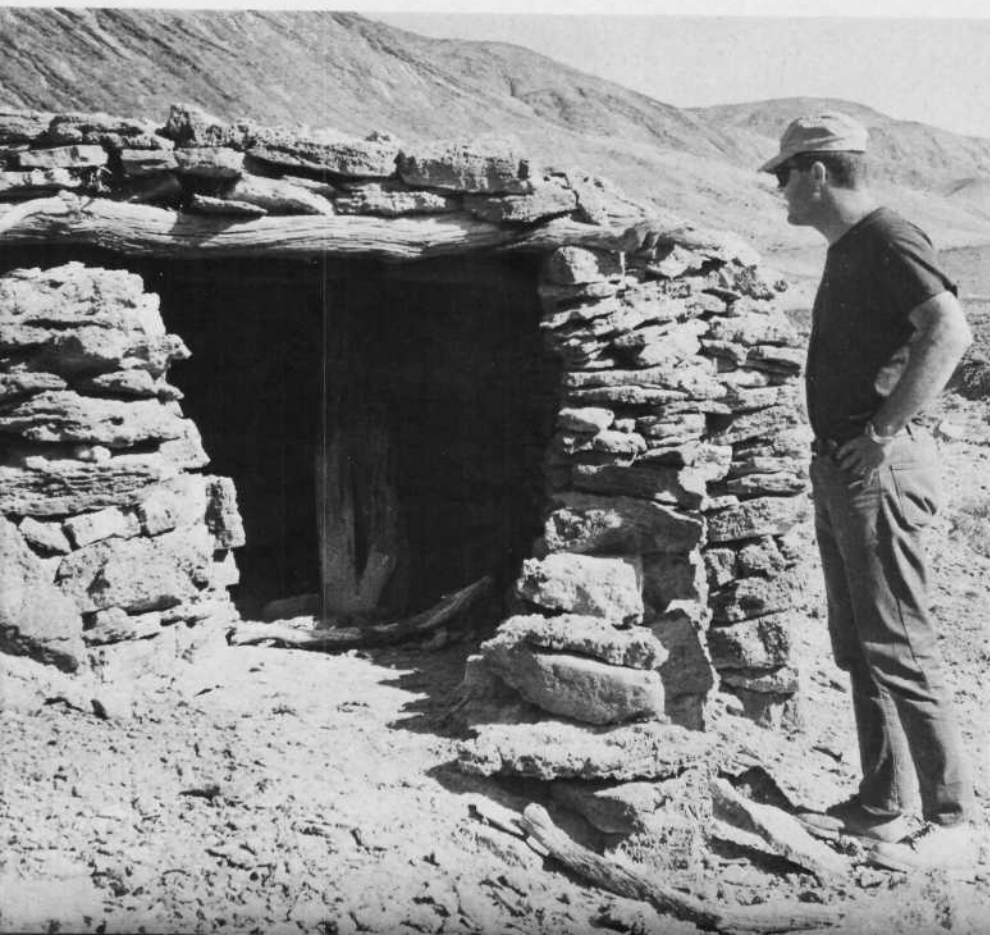
FIND BURIED TREASURE



FIVE PATENTED MONEY SAVING TRANSISTORIZED DETECTORS FROM \$1795 to \$4995
3 SEARCH HEADS INCREASE RANGE
Find Coins, Jewelry, Gold, Silver
Write For FREE Catalog
SOLCO DEPT DAIJ TENNENT, N.J. 07763



Salt was hauled out of the Valley (above) by a 13-mile tramline with buckets carrying 20 tons an hour. Several Indian ruins (below) are still found. A network of dikes and brine-covered timber (right) are all that remains of the once flourishing salt works. Photos by the author.



EXPLORING INYO'S SALINE VALLEY

by Roger Mitchell



THERE IS a huge depression in the middle of California's Inyo County which has much to offer the desert enthusiast and weekend explorer. Known as the Saline Valley, this cavity in the earth's crust covers several hundred square miles. Despite its immense size, the area is overlooked by the general public. There are no paved roads or communities in the region, so apparently cartographers feel there is nothing of interest there!

History does not state when white men first entered the valley, but whatever the date, the area was occupied centuries before. The Indians who roamed these barren hills came to the valley in the winter months for it was relatively warm. Another attraction was the salt, a commodity which had considerable trade value with other aborigines living on the west side of the Sierras.

Evidence of early Indian occupation can be found in many places throughout

the valley. One large campsite was on the alluvial fan at the mouth of Hunter Canyon. I recently counted more than two dozen stone "house rings" on the flat, with another half dozen on the hill just to the south. Old-timers tell of counting 75 or more. Even today, the observant visitor may find beads from a squaw's necklace or obsidian arrowheads. Look for Gossip Rock, a huge limestone boulder where the women of the tribe would sit grinding mesquite beans and pinyon nuts.

Other ancient sites in the valley are marked by piles of obsidian chips. At such places partially finished arrowheads are frequently found. While most of these Indians lived in flimsy structures made of brush, rock hogans were occasionally made. One remote site contains two such dwellings, one collapsed and the other in almost perfect condition. A pinyon branch used to support the roof could undoubtedly be used to date the structure.

Make Your Outings More Fun

and Profitable Too!

METAL DETECTORS

- Detectron
- Excelsior

Get the Best . . .
Top Guarantee . . .
Easy to Operate . . .
From
\$64.95 to \$165.00



Find Gold Old Coins Treasures

Stop By And See Our . . .

Western Artifacts, Indian Collection, Jewelry Display, Lapidary Equipment, Tumblers, Gold Pans, Dry Washers, Books on Treasures and Lost Mines . . . and other items of fun for the entire family. For information just write to or call:

COMPTON ROCK SHOP

1405 South Long Beach Blvd.
Ph. 632-9096 Compton, Calif. 90221



THE SPARKLE TUMBLER
HOLDS 3 LBS. OF GEM MATERIAL

FOR ONLY \$11⁵⁰
PLUS POSTAGE

GORDON'S ALL-NEW 1971 CATALOG

IS NOW AVAILABLE. OVER 250 PAGES OF MOUNTINGS, TOOLS AND SUPPLIES. A MUST FOR NEW ROCKHOUNDS \$1.00, REFUNDABLE WITH ANY \$7.50 ORDER. **FREE! FREE!**

For DESERT Magazine Readers
GORDON'S GEM SHOPPER

Gordon's

1741 CHERRY AVE
LONG BEACH, CALIF. 90804
P.O. BOX 4073D

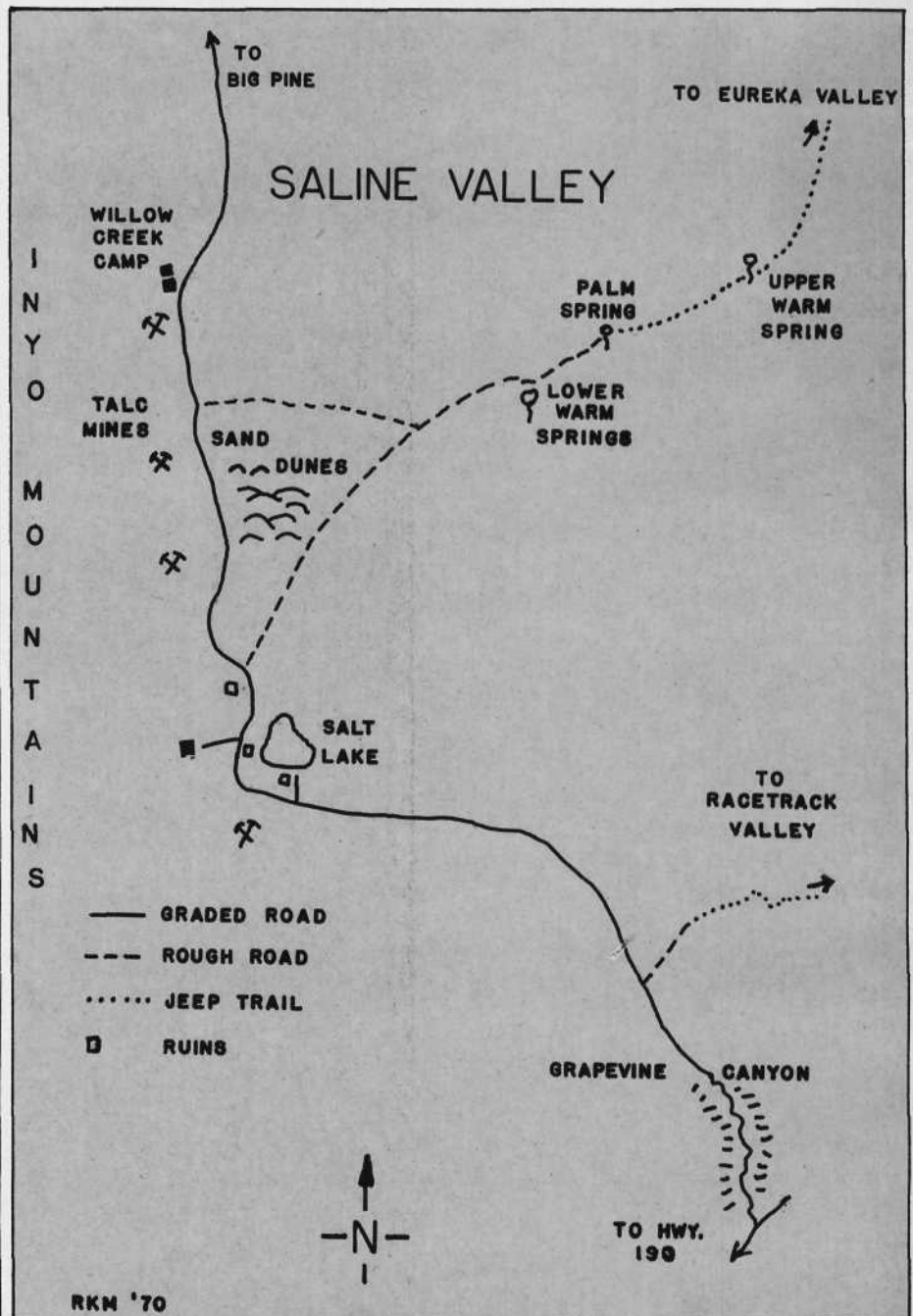
History books first mention the salt deposits of the Saline Valley as early as 1864. Miners rushed into the valley in the 1880s—but it was gold they were seeking, not salt. When they didn't find the precious metal, they moved on. It was 1903 before anyone attempted to profit from the vast salt deposits. Although there was a railroad in the Owens Valley only 12 miles away, 10,668-foot New York Butte was in the way.

The Saline Valley Salt Company found it too expensive to haul the salt out by wagon so they engaged the Trenton Iron Company to build a 13½ mile tramline over the Inyo Mountains. Construction started on September 1, 1911 and the first bucket loads of salt reached the

Owen Lake railhead on July 2, 1913. For seven years an endless chain of buckets transported "The World's Purest Salt" at a rate of 20 tons-per-hour.

Mining was rather simple. Natural springs fed water onto the 1,500-acre salt flat during the winter months. The brine solution was impounded in shallow ponds behind a series of dikes. The summer sun would evaporate the water leaving a residue of salt crystals. This harvest was gathered continuously until 1918, and then intermittently until 1930. Today, you can still find a network of dikes and various ruins around the salt lake. Even the tramline with sections is still largely intact.

Just north of the salt lake an unmark-



ed, but frequently used road, starts north and somewhat east to a series of warm springs. It is a dusty eight miles to Lower Warm Springs but a side trip well worth the effort. Here mineral water bubbles out of the ground at a delightful 112 degrees. Over the years visitors have lined the main pool with concrete creating a primitive, but excellent spa. Mesquite trees surround the springs offering many fine shaded and secluded campsites. Practically anytime between mid-October and mid-April is a good time to camp here. Except on weekends, you are likely to have the springs to yourself.

While most prudent drivers will not take a standard passenger car beyond Lower Warm Spring, the road does go on. Those with pickups can continue up the wash another mile to Palm Spring, so named for a single palm which was planted here. The route beyond here becomes increasingly difficult and is recommended only for dune buggies or four-wheel-drive vehicles.

Two and a quarter miles above Palm Spring is Upper Warm Spring. The campsites here are usually uncrowded. The rough jeep trail continues northward through very desolate country. Eventually, with some difficulty, you can cross a pass and come out at the sand dunes in Eureka Valley. This route is definitely not recommended for the inexperienced or a party in just one vehicle. Having once broken an axle at Marble Bath, I can personally testify that it's a long walk out.

There are four ways you can drive into the Saline Valley, but only two are passable to the family passenger car. Relatively good graded roads enter the valley from the north and south. To obtain up to date information on either route, call the Inyo County Road Department at (714) 878-2411, Ext. 316.

From the north take State 168 east from Big Pine. This road forks at 2.4 miles and again after another 14 miles. Keep right both times. The road is well marked with signs. This route passes through Marble Canyon with its picturesque old cabins and headframes. The canyon was once busy with miners working the dry gravel for its placer gold. The road briefly enters the pinyon forest as it reaches a high point of 7,300 feet.

As the road descends Whippoorwill Canyon there are a few shady spots where snow may linger during the winter months. Generally, however, this is an all

year road. The road gradually drops to the valley floor passing a number of abandoned talc mines to the right. An area of small dunes is passed on the left and finally you will reach the salt lake. By this route it is 58 miles from the salt works back to Big Pine, the nearest point of civilization. Of that distance, 44 miles are over dirt roads.

The southern road into the valley leaves State 190 at a point 31 miles east of Olancho (4 miles east of the Darwin turnoff). Again, the road is well marked with prominent signs. The road, paved at first, heads north through Joshua Tree forests of Santa Rosa and Lee Flats. As the road climbs to a highpoint of 6,200 feet, there are some scenic views south into Panamint Valley.

At the head of Grapevine Canyon the road forks. Take the left fork going down the canyon. Feral burros are often seen grazing on the hillsides in this area. They are undoubtedly attracted by several springs found in the region. Once out of the canyon and on the alluvial fan, it is still some 16 miles to the salt works. In the spring, if moisture conditions have been just right, this area has been known to put on a spectacular wildflower display. By the southern route it is 38 miles from the salt works to Highway 190.

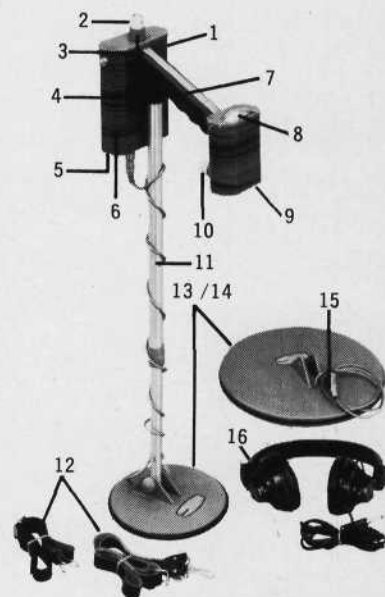
For those with four-wheel-drive vehicles, there are more challenging ways to enter the Saline Valley. One such jeep trail is the previously mentioned route from the Eureka Valley sand dunes, via Marble Bath and Warm Springs. Another trail, strictly for four-wheel-drive vehicles, starts westward from the southern end of the Racetrack Valley. The turnoff is at the bottom of the hill, just before reaching the Lippencott Lead Mine. When winter snows block the road over Hunter Mountain, this is the only through passage from the Death Valley area directly to the Saline Valley. The route is rough and steep, but relatively short.

No matter what route you choose, you should carry sufficient food, water and extra gasoline. There are no facilities of any kind in or near the Saline Valley. Summer temperatures frequently reach 120 degrees on the valley floor, so the area should be avoided between June and August. Even in this age when men are walking on the moon, the desert can be as hard and as cruel as it was in the days of '49. □

Introducing the brand new

Fisher Explorer II

The makers of the first metal detector give you 16 reasons why it's the "Cadillac" of all treasure hunting instruments. Yet its basic cost is only \$229.50



1. EXCLUSIVE DETACHABLE FEATURE. Lets you use instrument as single unit or with electronics section detached and worn 'round the neck.
2. ON/OFF/VOLUME CONTROL.
3. METER SENSITIVITY.
4. BUILT-IN SPEAKER.
5. EARPHONE PLUG.
6. EXCLUSIVE LAMINATED WOODGRAIN. Makes Explorer II the most distinctive on the market. Tough, scratch-resistant, beautiful!
7. GENUINE WALNUT HAND GRIP.
8. WIDE-ANGLE METER.
9. EXCLUSIVE BATTERY TEST.
10. METAL-MINERAL SELECTOR/FINGERTIP TUNING CONTROL.
11. TELESCOPING ROD.
12. REAL LEATHER NECK & WAIST STRAPS. Included for use with detached housing.
- 13./14. CHOICE OF WATERPROOF SEARCH LOOPS. You can have either the 6" or 12" loop at the basic price (or have both loops for \$50 extra).
15. STAINLESS CONNECTORS. Included with basic unit.
16. EXCLUSIVE STEREO-TYPE HEADPHONES. Included with basic unit.



FISHER TREASURE DETECTORS

Dept. DM, Palo Alto, California 94303 • Since 1932

Gentlemen: Please send free information on your new Explorer II and instruments checked:

- GEMINI \$189.50 METALERT M70 \$158.50
 ORION 120 \$99.50 ORION 121 \$129.50
 MODEL T-20C \$149.50

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

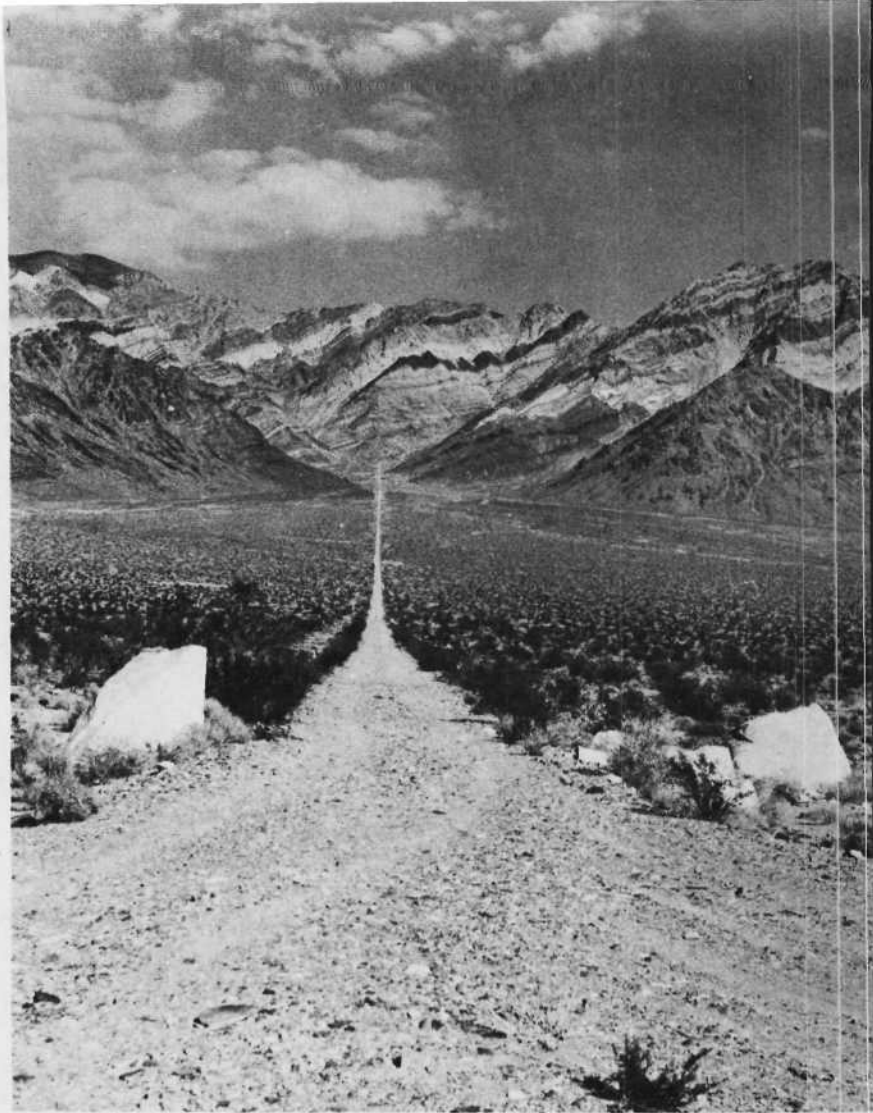
CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____



DEALER INQUIRIES INVITED
 MASTERCARD WELCOMED

MEET ME AT THE FOUNTAIN



by
Mary Frances
Strong
Photography
by Jerry Strong

“MEET ME at the fountain” was the slogan of Carrara, a small town located in one of Nevada’s hottest and driest regions—the Amargosa Desert. Separated from California’s Death Valley by the foreboding Funeral Range, the little community sweltered through long hot summers, only to be buffeted by icy winds during the short winters.

Carrara, an unusual town in an adverse setting, existed for a singular purpose—to provide the employees of the American Carrara Marble Company with all the comforts of a home town. In the year 1912, this was no mean feat.

Young, energetic Park V. Perkins, formerly a mine-machinery salesman, undertook the development of the quarries and townsite after a year of drilling had disclosed vast marble deposits in the

Bare Mountains. The American Carrara Marble Company was quickly formed and the stripping of the overburden on the proposed quarry sites begun.

By 1913, the development of the townsite was underway and a new project was in the offing—a three-mile, cable railway. It had become apparent that a means of transportation was needed to haul the fifteen-ton marble blocks down to the mill. A route was surveyed and once again the desert showed its capriciousness by a delaying action. Due to the heat and haze the instrument work was limited to less than two hours a day—4:30 a.m. to 6:00 a.m.

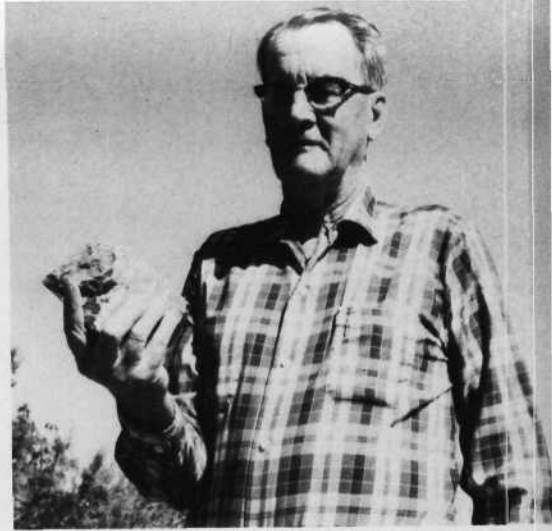
Under Perkins’ capable directions, conditions were soon “go” at the townsite. Considerable publicity was given to scheduled “Townsite Celebration” to be

held on May 8, 1913. A tree-lined, town-square had been laid out complete with a 15-foot diameter fountain continuously spurting a 3 to 6 foot column of water. It was an incongruous sight in an arid land, where water was so precious it could mean life or death for men and mines. Having no supply of its own, Carrara’s water was piped nine miles across the desert from Gold Center. The townsfolk were proud of their “square” and the password for Townsite Day soon became the town’s slogan.

People came for miles via horse and buggy, cars and train to enjoy the Townsite Day entertainment. The Goldfield Band opened the festivities and a hotly contested baseball game accounted for the afternoon hours. An orchestra played loud and long for an evening of danc-



Large boulders of marble mark the entrance to the old railroad bed (left) which is now a steep road leading to the ghost town (above, left) of Carrara. Chandler machines (below, left) were used to cut the marble blocks. Edward



Garrett, (above), whose mother ran the Carrara Hotel, holds a specimen of marble. Garrett's sister, Gladys, and two mine workers (below) posed in front of hotel during 1917 Halloween celebration. Man on left is in a costume.



Photos from Edward Garrett collection.

ing. The lone saloon did a standing-room-only business; and it is reported that several celebrants christened the fountain by falling in during the evening—but a gay time was had by all!

"It was about this time that we moved to Carrara," John Edward Garrett, now a retired Los Angeles County employee, told me. "The town was growing rapidly and the railway was under construction. We first lived up at the quarry where my mother ran the cookhouse. About 30 men were employed and she served them three hearty meals a day."

"There were only seven kids," Ed went on to say, "including my sisters Grace and Gladys, and me. The one-room schoolhouse was located in Carrara, and we had to walk the three miles morning and evening. Going down wasn't so bad,

but the grade was fairly steep on the uphill climb."

Carrara soon boasted a hotel, ice house, large boarding house, engineering office, saloons, postoffice, restaurant, a number of homes and the ever important mill.

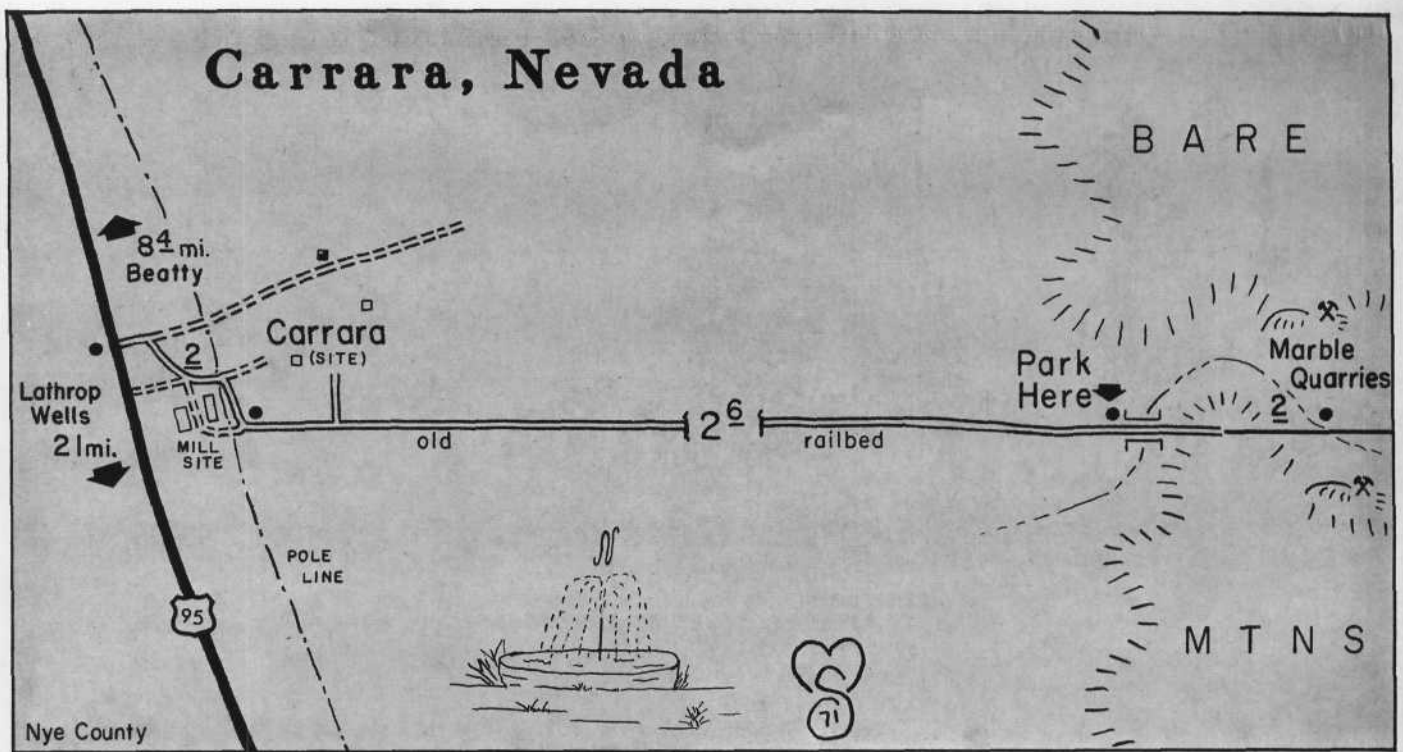
The railroad was completed in the spring of 1914 and a Lingerwood cable system installed. Two flat cars counterbalanced one another on each trip. The loaded, or down, car helped to pull the empty one up to the quarry. This system required a turnout at mid-point which allowed the cars to pass one another. A power house was located at the quarry and provided the energy needed to operate the electrically-driven machinery.

Marble was mined from several quarries in Cambrian limestone and dolomite. A variety of colors was obtained, includ-

ing the pure white, statutory grade which resembled the famed Carrara, Italy marbles for whom the Nevada deposit was named.

Chandler machines cut the marble into 5 to 15-ton blocks which were then sub-drilled to release them. A derrick hoisted the blocks aboard the flat car for delivery to the cutting mill where huge saws, fed with mud and water, cut the blocks into one-inch slabs. Finally, they were finished by large polishing machines. The first shipment of marble was made in April of 1914.

Carrara's most productive years began with the first shipment and lasted through 1917. The company payroll rose to about 70 and the buildings in town numbered in the 50s. A weekly newspaper, *The Obelisk*, circulated the local

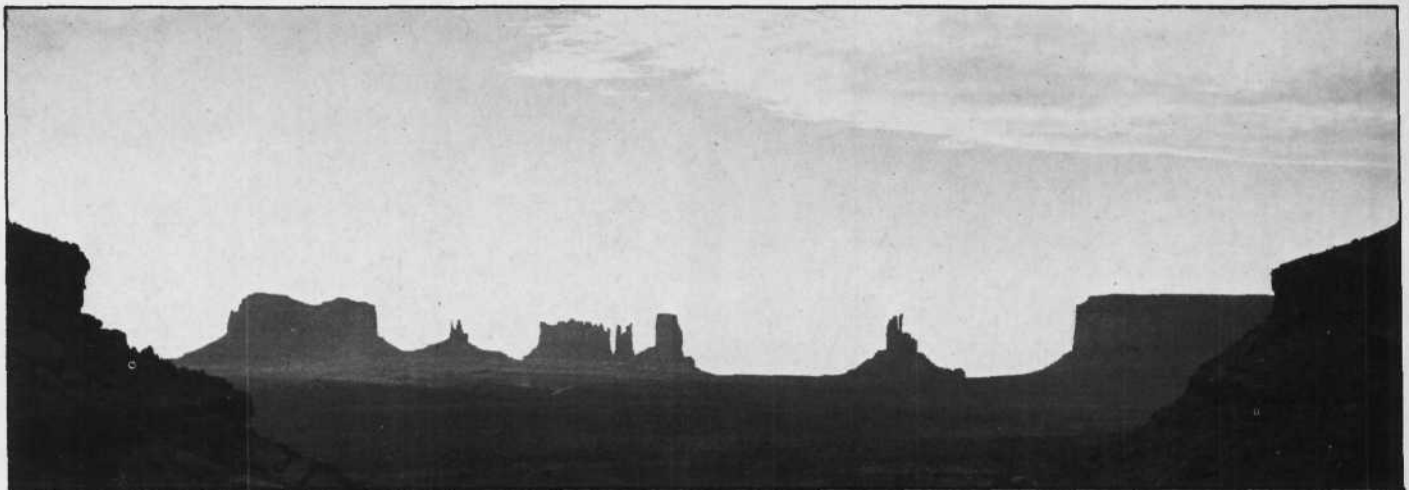


news with Arthur B. Perkins, brother of the town's founder, as editor. He also ran several other businesses including the boarding house and company office.

A recent talk with Mrs. Arthur (Marguerite) Perkins, disclosed some of the

housewife's problems. "Supplies were very difficult to obtain," she told me. "After the ice house closed down it was almost impossible to keep perishable food in the summer. We would order a 100-pound block of ice via the railroad (L. V. & T)

and were lucky if it weighed 25 pounds upon arrival." Mrs. Perkins continued, "We had a nice home, surrounded by trees, on the eastern edge of town. Our small garden did well, so we enjoyed fresh vegetables."



Fantastic Monument Valley trips!

MONUMENT VALLEY IN WINTERTIME—A totally new face of The Valley when snow mantles the brick-red monuments. Overlooked by many.

HUNT'S MESA—A bird's-eye view of Monument Valley.

MYSTERY VALLEY—Prehistoric ruins and arches.

HOSKININNI MESA—All day tour through Narrow Canyon to rim overlook. Indian ruins, dinosaur tracks and unusual rock formations.

Monument Valley

Golden Sands Tours

TELEPHONE (602) 697-3424

BOX 187, KAYENTA, ARIZONA 86033

Various opinions have been expressed by historians as to why the mining operations ceased. The presence of numerous dark veins in the white marble and the close-spaced fracturing, in addition to increased competition from eastern sources, undoubtedly contributed to the failure of this operation. Mrs. Perkins commented, "The builders and architects had their own whims and were 'hipped,' you might say, on Georgia marble. They were reluctant to use material from a new source. This was the main reason the operations were forced to shut down."

Carrara's ruins lie bleaching in the desert less than a mile east of U.S. Highway 95, nine miles south of Beatty, Nevada. Good, level camping areas will be found around the mill site and old town.

Rock collectors, and other visitors too, should enjoy a trip to the quarries where plenty of marble specimens will be found on the dumps. This is not cabochon material, but can be used for spheres, bookends and creative lapidary efforts.

The old railbed, straight as an arrow, heads up the steep slope to the quarries in the Bare Mountains—a distance of three miles. It has become a usable road, though the grade is steep and the bed nar-

row. A stock car might have difficulty turning around until a deep wash is reached at 2.6 miles. At this point a bridge crosses the wash. Cars should park here as the route becomes a jeep trail due to washouts, but it is only a short hike to the quarries.

Erosion has taken its toll of the bridge piers. It would be wise to check before crossing in a vehicle. Trail bikes and 4-W-Ds can easily reach the quarries in the canyon.

Browsing through the site of old Carrara, it is hard to imagine a sizeable town, though ruins dot the area. It seems impossible that trees and gardens flourished where sagebrush seems never to have been disturbed. The old block ice house is the best preserved building. Concrete stanchions amid piles of rubble mark the former mill. Here and there a large marble boulder still waits the cutting table and polishing machines.

In the heart of the old townsite, partially filled with sand and slowly being encompassed by the durable sagebrush, is the fountain—intact. Wonder of wonders, we can still say after nearly a half-century—"Meet me at the fountain" in old Carrara! □



Good, level campsites can be found among the marble mill ruins.

RAINBOW'S END...
begins with a

GOLDAK
TREASURE LOCATOR!



"COMMANDER" 720
This Goldak Treasure Locator is unsurpassed for locating buried treasure, coins. Civil War relics and for beachcombing. Features "Tell-Tone" Signal. Locates any metal object under dirt, sand, mud, rock, etc. No cumbersome cords—completely transistorized, battery powered.

When it comes to finding your pot of gold, go with the leader—go with Goldak!

EFFECTIVE DEPTH RANGE
(Under Normal Conditions)

- 3" ... Bullet
- 7" ... Penny
- 8-12" ... Silver Dollar
- 18" ... Pistol
- 24" ... Jar of Coins
- 30" ... Kettle
- 36" ... Placer Gold Deposit
- 48" ... Metal Chest
- 60" ... Large Metallic Object

?

Start out right—send \$1.00 prepaid for authentic gold-plated replica of a Spanish doubloon found off Cape Kennedy.



GOLDAK THE GOLDAK COMPANY, INC.
1101-A Air Way
Glendale, California 91201

- Please send free literature on GOLDAK treasure locators.
- I enclose \$1.00 prepaid for my gold-plated doubloon replica with pouch.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Calendar of Western Events

OCTOBER 23 & 24, CIRCUS OF GEMS sponsored by LERC Rockcrafters, LERC Building, 2814 Empire Ave., Burbank, Calif. Faceting, displays, Arrowhead making, carving, etc. Free admission and parking. Write 2814 Empire Avenue, Burbank, Calif.

OCTOBER 23 & 24, SANTA MARIA GEM-BOREE sponsored by Santa Maria Gem and Mineral Society, Santa Maria (Calif.) Fairgrounds. Displays, dealers, rock swap, etc.

OCTOBER 23 - 25, TWELFTH ANNUAL SPACE FAIR, Point Mugu, Calif. "America's Biggest Air Show" is held at 10:30 A.M. and 3 P.M. each day. Also carnival and midway and U. S. Navy exhibits.

OCTOBER 30 & 31, NINTH ANNUAL SAN DIEGO COUNTY ROCKHOUND GEM-BOREE sponsored by the Council of the San Diego County Gem & Mineral Societies, Scottish Rite Masonic Memorial Center, 1895 Camino Del Rio South, San Diego, Calif. Large and excellent annual event.

NOVEMBER 2-5, NORRA MEXICAN 1000 race in Baja California. Write National Off Road Racing Association, 1616 Victory Blvd. Suite 200, Glendale, Calif. 91201.

NOVEMBER 4-DECEMBER 1, ART EXHIBIT of famous desert artist, Henry R. Mockel, Hi-Desert Nature Museum, Yucca Valley, California. Scenic, ghost towns and wildflowers.

NOVEMBER 6 & 7, ALL MINERAL SHOW sponsored by the Mineralogical Society of Southern California, Pasadena City College, 1570 Colorado Blvd., Pasadena. Admission 50 cents, students, free. Ample free parking. Exhibits and lectures.

NOVEMBER 6 & 7, BEAR GULCH ROCK CLUB'S gem and mineral show, Masonic Hall, J & Vine Streets, Ontario, Calif. Free admission, door prizes.

NOVEMBER 6 & 7, RAINBOW OF GEMS SHOW sponsored by the Orcutt Mineral Society, Convention Center, Santa Barbara, County Fairgrounds, Santa Maria, Calif. Free admission and parking.

NOVEMBER 6 & 7, THE GEM BONANZA sponsored by the Clark County (Nevada) Gem Collectors, Inc., Riviera Hotel, Las Vegas, Nevada. Write Guern Royster, 3286 Brentwood, Las Vegas, Nevada 89030.

NOVEMBER 6 & 7, INDIAN WELLS GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY'S gem and mineral show, Naval Weapons Center Community Center, China Lake, Calif. Demonstrations, field trips and Indian artifact displays.

NOVEMBER 6 & 7, GEMS AND MINERALS FOR PEOPLE sponsored by the General Dynamics-Pomona Rockhounds, GD-PRA area, Corona Freeway and Mission Blvd., Pomona, Calif. Dealers, swap table, faceting, overnight camping. Write C. A. Purdy, 693 Emerald St., Upland, Calif. 91786.

NOVEMBER 12 - 14, SECOND ANNUAL DESERT FIESTA, Wenden, Arizona (on Interstate 10, 60 miles from the California border toward Wickenburg). Tailgating, rock and mineral displays, guided field trips, non-commercial carnival for kids, plus other activities. Ample room for all types of camping and campers.

NOVEMBER 13 & 14, MONTEBELLO MINERAL & LAPIDARY SOCIETY'S free show, Masonic Lodge, 6310 East Olympic Blvd., East Los Angeles, Calif. Complete show. Write P.O. Box 582, Montebello, Calif. 90640.

NOVEMBER 13 & 14, 29th ANNUAL DESERT WEED SHOW sponsored by the Twenty-nine Palms Women's Club, Twentynine Palms, Calif. To encourage diversified uses of weeds in all forms of art.

NOVEMBER 20 & 21, RIVER GEMBOREE sponsored by the Silvery Colorado River Rock Club, Davis Dam Recreation Hall, 3 miles north of Bullhead City, Arizona. Free admission.

NOVEMBER 27-DECEMBER 5, INDIAN ARTS & CRAFTS EXHIBIT, sponsored by the Heard Museum Guild, 22 East Monte Vista, Phoenix, Arizona. More than 2,000 selected and pre-judged items from Indian artists from Mexico to the Northwest Territories. Exhibits, craftsmanship, etc.

DECEMBER 2-JANUARY 5, DISPLAY OF PAINTINGS by western artist, Kirk Martin, Hi-Desert Nature Museum, Yucca Valley, Calif. Woodcuts, western scenics and Indians.

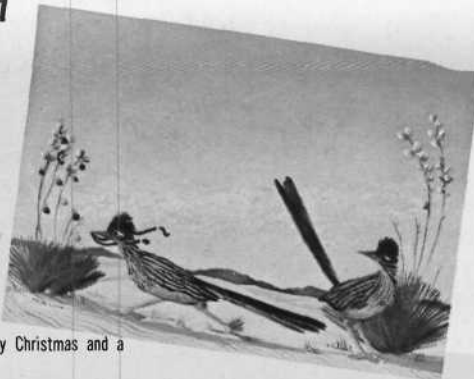
**Desert
Life**
by Hans Baerwald

Three young ground squirrels hesitate momentarily before going out on their own. 35mm Exacta with a 400mm lens.



NEW FOR 1971

CHRISTMAS CARDS of the West



T322 A Holiday Errand—Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year—Lau

BEAUTIFUL TOP QUALITY ART
Bright colorful scenes fold to make a rich card 5" x 7". We can print your name only, or name and brand in red to match greeting. Also, your return address on the deluxe white envelopes — extras included. You will be proud to send these beautiful cards and you'll like our "stamped service" on orders right up 'til Christmas. Thank you kindly.

ORDER DIRECT FROM THIS AD OR SEND FOR FREE SAMPLE AND CATALOG



T312 A Cowboy's Prayer—With Best Wishes for Christmas and all the New Year—John Free



T317 "From the rising... of the sun, etc."—May you have the Spirit of Christmas, etc.—White



T351 Take Time to See—May the Peace and Joy of Christmas be with you, etc.—Wagoner



T321 Kachina Spirits in the Sky—May the Peace and Joy of Christmas be with, etc.—Touraine



T438 "In the heart of the wilderness"—May the Joy of Christmas be with you, etc.—Lenox



T772 Evening Cloud—Peace and Good Will at Christmas and all the Year—Delano



T797 The Wonder of Winter's Glow—May the meaning of the Season be deeper, etc.—Clasen



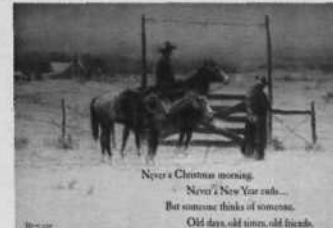
T425 When Old Friends meet on Christmas Eve—Merry Christmas and Happy New Year—Thomas



T415 "Christmas Morn"—Merry Christmas and Best Wishes for a Happy New Year—Nicles



T714 "The charm of Christmas..."—Merry Christmas and Happy New Year—Thomas



T411 "... old times, old friends."—Merry Christmas and Best Wishes for a Happy New Year—Harvey



T561 "Open face of heaven..."—May every happiness be yours at Christmas, etc.—Lowdermilk



T435 "In the heart of the wilderness"—May Peace be your Gift at Christmas, etc.—Barks



T501 "Thinkin' of you at Christmas..."—With friendly Greetings of the Season, etc.—FitzSimmons



T338 "One with all mankind..."—Wishing you a Blessed Christmas and New Year—Vannerson



T402 Stablemates—May there come to you this Holiday time the precious things of life, etc.—Dick

HOW TO ORDER: Circle total quantity and price. Mix and assort at no extra cost. Order all of one kind or as many of each as desired. Fill out coupon or order by letter and mail with check or money order. Add postage and handling fee to price of order. Canada residents remit in U.S. dollar values. Colorado residents add 3% sales tax. No C.O.D. Thank you!

TOTAL QUANTITY	12	25	50	75	100	125	150	200	300	500
WITHOUT NAME	\$2.50	\$4.50	\$ 9.00	\$13.25	\$17.00	\$21.00	\$25.00	\$33.00	\$49.00	\$79.50
WITH NAME	3.75	6.00	10.75	15.50	19.25	23.50	27.75	36.25	53.25	85.75
WITH NAME AND BRAND	5.25	7.50	12.25	17.00	20.75	25.00	29.25	37.75	54.75	87.25
RETURN ADDRESS	1.50	1.75	2.25	2.50	2.75	3.00	3.25	3.75	4.75	6.75

POSTAGE AND HANDLING FEE: ORDERS TO \$7.99 ADD 35c • \$8.00 TO \$23.99 ADD 65c • \$24.00 AND UP ADD 95c.

FILL IN QUANTITY DESIRED OF EACH CARD BESIDE CARD NUMBER AT RIGHT	T312	T351	T425	T561
	T317	T402	T435	T714
	T321	T411	T438	T772
	T322	T415	T501	T797
	T338	RUSH FREE SAMPLE AND CATALOG		

NAMES TO BE PRINTED ON CHRISTMAS CARDS (ENCLOSE DRAWING OF BRAND)
SEND CARDS AND/OR CATALOG TO: _____ 2N
Rte., St., or Box No. _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

**MONEY BACK GUARANTEE
22 YEARS OF HAPPY MAIL ORDER CUSTOMERS**

THE LEANIN' TREE RANCH
BOX 1500 • BOULDER COLORADO 80302

IMAGINE A trip to the moon, a do-it-yourself journey without benefit of rockets or orbiting equipment. Well, almost, if you have a vivid imagination and are traveling in the vicinity of Farmington, New Mexico.

Bisti Badlands—"among the humps of clay," which is the Navajo meaning of the word Bisti (Bi-s-tee) is an area where exploring a free form landscape is like entering a dream-world phantasma, the erosional pattern is so far removed from expected land structure familiar to us.

The clay soil is a soft gray with striated bands of red mudstone. Other shapes and colors are smokey black upside-down bowl mounds, pebbled with rich red crushed rock frosting streaming down the sides. Variety of color and form are there, but harmonious, as nature ever is in arranging her effects—the whole perfectly balanced.

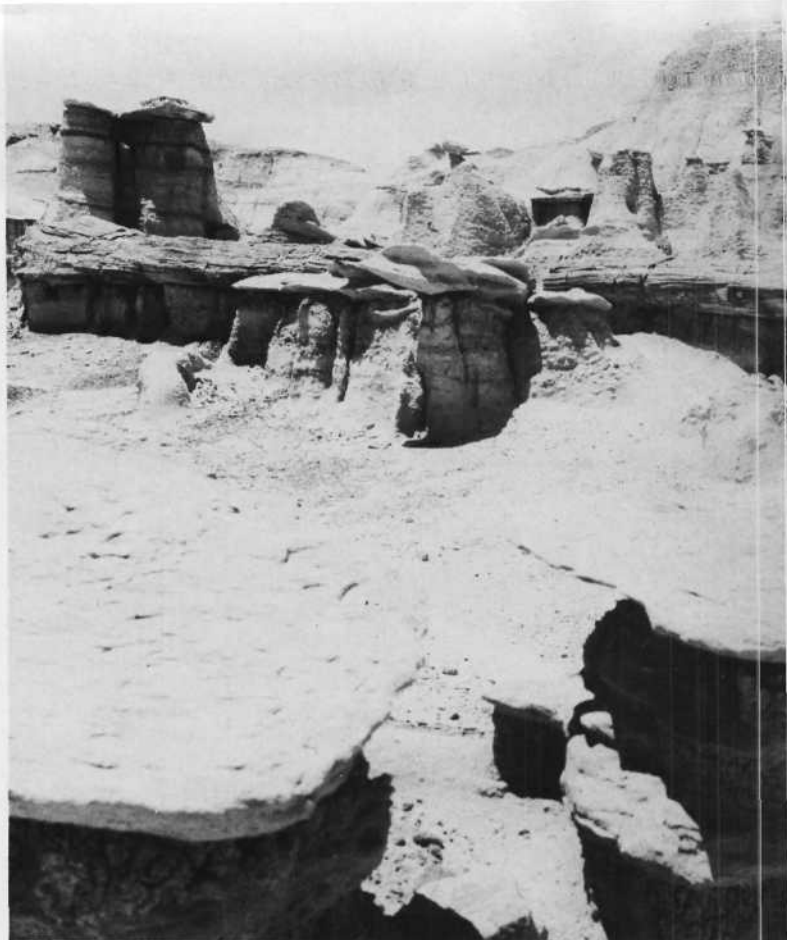
Bisti is comical too; you will chuckle at seemingly impossible postures of the imagined inhabitants. A column, slim, with a stone sombrero perched rakishly on top, or a debonair tipsy rogue that defies the law of gravity by an alarming slant due north, and a colony of short dwarfs, demure under their toadstool toppers.

This Salvadore Dali surrealist world is located 36 miles from Farmington, New

Petrified tree (right) lies along clay bank. It is more than 100 feet long and four feet in diameter.

Giant freeform sculpture (below) by Mother Nature dots the landscape.

Photos by the author.



NEW MEXICO'S BISTI

Mexico. Within this ancient lake bed are to be found dinosaur bones and gastroliths, (dinosaur gizzard stones) and petrified wood. Whole logs of what appears to be a conifer type tree lie buried in the clay banks. Measurement of one of these stone columns along the length showed the tree had been slightly over 100 feet high, and about four feet in diameter.

Several of these petrified trees were examined, but the fractures through the growth rings plainly indicated that none of the wood is of gem quality. It is certain that Bisti was once a forested land until it became a lake where sedimentation slowly buried the forest as the waters rose.

Today, this ancient forest faces another crises. Rich coal deposits underlie the Badlands, and most of the area is under lease to the New Mexico Public Service Company for mining purposes. The Bureau of Land Management controls the lands of Bisti, but there's a move underway to have 3000 acres of the most

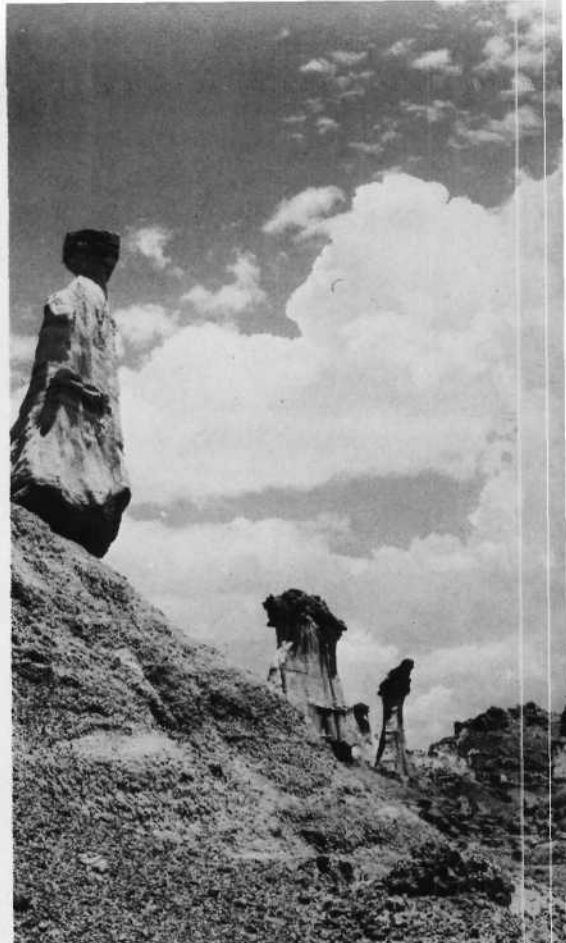




scenic part set aside as a national park. Conservationist groups also are working for an agreement with the Company that will preserve Bisti from damage to its unique structure.

To visit Bisti, the point of departure from Farmington is the junction of U.S. 550 and New Mexico State 371. Corner of Broadway and Lake Streets. Drive east on Lake Street to Pinon Street. Cross Pinon and follow 371 across the bridge at the San Juan River. Continue on 371 fifteen miles where a small sign on the right side of the road, "La Vida Mission," directs you to turn right (south). This is a well-graded dirt road, but has weathered to washboard surface. It is negotiable by any vehicle if driven slowly, although not recommended for trailers.

Five miles on, there is another La Vida Mission sign where you turn left; from there it is 16 miles to the Bisti Trading Post. Unfortunately, the Trading Post was gutted by fire early in July 1971 and all that remains of this once interesting stop are the stone walls that still show



BADLANDS

by
Enid C.
Howard

the bright green paint.

Follow the road past the burned out buildings for one and one tenth miles. The two track dirt road into the Badlands takes off to the left just as you would start to cross a very broad wash.

Carry food and water, and fill gas tanks before leaving Farmington. A compass, with knowledge of its use, would be an excellent item to carry if one wished to hike far into the maze of Bisti's alleyways and columns. July and August temperatures in the Badlands range in the nineties, but spring, early summer and fall days are ideal to visit Bisti.

Bisti Badlands and surrounding country is a land of stark simplicity. One must view it through forgiving eyes to appreciate the soft golds, gray and reds of the soil, relieved only by small tufts of dusty gray-green vegetation. There are no trees, the land sweeps boldly out beyond vision, but this "wondrous strange" corner of New Mexico once teemed with the busy life of a forest community.

The area has been posted under the Antiquities Act, which prohibits desecration of antiquities. So, if you visit Bisti, take only pictures—leave only footprints, and enjoy this unique graveyard of an ancient forest. □



A hooded sentry with flowing robes (above) appears to watch over Bisti's graveyard of an ancient forest. Formations (left) look like exhaust stacks from an underground city.



Photo by Jack Turner

The Gila Monster

by K. L. Boynton
© 1971

INDOLENT AND SLOTHFUL, the Gila monster is a fine example of how to succeed in the desert by doing nothing.

While his furred, scaled or feathered neighbors strain to eke out a living, this oversize lizard loafs about. Basking in the sun when he feels like it, resting in the shade, he takes life easy the clock around. So well equipped is his stout armor-clad body for coping with killing heat and long foodless drouth, he's good for at least 20 and quite likely 35 years of success based mainly on sheer laziness.

At home in the rougher sections of the desert, the Gila monster is to be found lounging about giant cactus and creosote bushes, near mesquite clumps, around ocotillo, barrel cactus, in washes—places where there are natural holes or cracks, or rodent burrows to retire into. And in such terrain his gaudy attire is a first-class work-saver. The fancy beaded pattern of his scaled body with its spots of bright orange, pink, yellow, its irregular bars of black and brown, and the broad light and dark rings of his tail should make him conspicuous. Actually, the highly colored spots and dark markings help break up the outlines of his body, making him very hard to see against his rough desert background. Hence he can lie

around daytimes half asleep and in relative safety. This is a very valuable conservation of energy, since the need for frequent hurry and scurry is practically eliminated.

Having rested all day, the Gila monster is ready for leisurely dining come dusk. Eggs are a major item on his menu, provided by Gambel quail and other ground-nesting birds and reptile eggs including those of the desert tortoise. He likes fledgling birds, juvenile ground squirrels, smaller lizards, fresh-out jack rabbits. Insects, flies and ants go down his gourmet hatch with a bit of salad, if available, in the way of blossoms. Food items are located mainly by odor. The comparatively large lizard (seldom over two feet and usually smaller) has the usual smell receivers in his nose, plus a chemical-smell organ in the roof of his mouth.

News of nearby groceries is brought in to this sensitive spot by his long, black forked tongue, flicked in and out some 45 times a minute when he is on the prowl for food. So good is this system, the Gila monster can easily zero in on well-buried tortoise eggs.

Small eggs are swallowed whole. Big ones are cracked along the side and open-

ed, after which the Gila monster laps up their contents, from time to time raising his head to let the liquid run down his throat. While nestling birds are no problem, rodent youngsters may be harder to catch. But the Gila monster, with surprisingly fast footwork and a quick snap, has his dinner, to be chewed and swallowed leisurely.

And herein is one of the problems that puzzles scientists. Since all the items on the Gila monster menu are small and easily handled by his powerful jaws and sharp teeth, why should he also have poison equipment? Especially, they ask, since among all the lizards in the world there is only one tribe known to be venomous — the *Heloderms* — to which only he and his Mexican cousin (who looks much like him) belong. Why this poison?

Zoologist Bogert and del Campo, intrigued by this scaly character and his off-beat ways, put in months of research in the field and in the laboratory. Their report put considerable light on the poison question and other aspects of the Gila monster. It seems that compared to the equipment found in snakes, his poison delivery system is quite primitive, and hence less efficient, although still highly dangerous.

The basic principle is the same—glands to produce the poison, and teeth to deliver it—but there are important differences. In snakes the poison department is located in the upper jaw. His is in the lower. Snake fangs are hollow and connect directly with the glands so that they work as hypodermic needles, the venom traveling down them and into the

puncture wound.

Gila monster teeth, on the other hand, are not hollow, but only grooved front and back. There is no direct connection with the glands, the venom coming out of ducts to puddle at the base of the teeth. It must travel by capillary action up into the grooves. Sharp cutting edges lie along these grooves, and the closing jaw action makes the main and deepest cut directly in front of the tooth, thus opening the way for the venom to enter easily.

The Gila monster's biting technique is

GOLD! YOU FIND IT WITH KOVACS CUSTOM MADE METAL DETECTORS

HIKER 11T. All Transistor \$185.00

Detect Placer Gold, Lode Veins, Coins
Interchangeable waterproof Loops

4 YEARS WARRANTY- FREE LITERATURE

Now available underwater Metal Detector

MIKE KOVACS

10123 Stonehurst Ave. Ph. (213) 768-0114
Sun Valley, Calif. 91352

ZIP CODE YOUR MAIL



It Raises. It Lowers. It's Hydraulic.

Born to roam the rugged Alcan Highway, the Alaskan Camper quickly found its way to every corner of the world. That's because Alaskan owners are a special breed, no-nonsense folk. They know value and design. Value is measured by Alaskan in every pound of

quality for the dollar. No short-changing on the production line. The patented hydraulic lowering and raising mechanism marks the design. You get the roomy living space when you need it. In camp. On the road it won't be there to fight the crosswinds. Alaskan means an exciting promise of adventure. Promise yourself an Alaskan — and keep it.

All models, including hydraulic telescoping cabover.

Sold and installed only at Alaskan Camper factories at factory prices. Also available at authorized factory outlets.

Write today to the factory nearest you for free folder describing the most advanced camper on the road.

R. D. HALL MFG., INC., 9847
Glenoaks Blvd., Sun Valley,
(San Fernando Valley)
California 91352. Dept. D-3

Factory Outlet: ALASKAN
CAMPER SALES, INC.,
Interstate 80 (half way between
S.F.-Sacramento), Route 1,
Box 332, Suisun City, Calif.
94585, Dept. D-3

ALASKAN CAMPERS
NORTHWEST, INC., 6410
South 143rd Street, (Tukwila)
Seattle, Washington 98168,
Dept. D-3

G. R. GRUBBS MFG., INC.,
d/b/a Alaskan Camper Sales,
9042 Longpoint Rd., Houston,
Texas 77055, Dept. D-3

FORT LUPTON CAMPERS,
1100 Denver Ave., Fort Lupton,
Colorado 80621, Dept. D-3

EINARS CAMPER MFG. CO.,
d/b/a Alaskan Campers North
Central, 3726 North 9th
Avenue, Sioux Falls, South
Dakota 57104, Dept. D-3

PENNACAMP Div. of
Lanheim, Inc., 401 West
End Avenue, Manheim,
Penn. 17545, Dept. D-3

MOBILE LIVING
PRODUCTS LTD., 5115
48th Street, Lacombe,
Alberta, Canada, Dept. D-3
CANADIAN PATENT NO. 637-543

Lowest Photo Prints Price Highest Quality

KODACOLOR FILM
DEVELOPED & PRINTED

8 Jumbo Prints (rectangular)\$1.78
12 Jumbo Prints (square)\$2.18
12 Jumbo Prints and	
New Roll of Kodacolor except 126\$2.98
12 Jumbo Prints and	
New Roll of Kodacolor film, 126\$3.07
Kodacolor Neg reprints (square)\$.14

All prices comparably low.
Price sheets and envelopes
available.

No gimmicks
No lies

47 years of continuous
service guarantees your
quality.



MARKET BASKET PHOTO CO.

P. O. Box 370, Yuma, Arizona 85364 or
P. O. Box 2830, San Diego, Calif. 92112

U.S. PATENT NO. 2879103

The Gila Monster is the only venomous lizard in the United States. Although appearing sluggish, he can move quickly.

an astonishingly fast lunge and a quick jab. Letting up only far enough to shift his hold for a better one, he achieves a final hang-on, bulldog style, that's good for a fifteen-minute grip, if he feels like it. All the time venom is flowing into the wound. The sharpest and best grooved teeth lie along the sides of his jaw handiest to the duct openings. His front teeth are not so good, and hence his original biting position makes a difference in how much poison enters the wound, which accounts for the conflicting reports on the seriousness of his bite. But in no way is he a lizard to get pally with. Primitive as his poison department is, it works, and he's a fellow to be let as strictly alone as the rattlesnake with his fancier equipment.

Like most reptiles, the Gila monster rejoices in tooth replacement as long as he lives. Edmund's study showed that the functional life of each tooth is about three months, with its understudy growing up all the while to take its place when it finally weakens at the base and falls out. The Gila monster's mouthful of 140 teeth are all replaced during the year in a neat system of staggered alteration so that no section of the jaw is minus many teeth at a time.



Photo by Joseph Muench.

His teeth are not very different from the dental display of his ancient ancestors who padded around arid regions some 40 million years ago. Bogert and del Campo, seeing so little improvement and noting the fact that no venom is actually needed by today's model for prey capture, concluded that poison equipment was far more important to Gila monsters of long ago, gradually becoming less so until now it is mainly used for defense against larger enemies, including man.

Once started, this team of investiga-

tors went on. How can this prize idler, they asked, inhabit places where food is virtually nonexistent for long periods of time and surface water practically nil?

Watching the lizards in the field they found that behavior has a lot to do with it, for the big fellows carefully avoid temperature extremes. While they bask in the sun to warm themselves in cool periods, they avoid prolonged exposure retiring to the shade or going underground. They cannot stand the direct sun long in summer in temperatures

Roth

METAL LOCATORS

8 models complete
Quality Features!

- WEIGHS ONLY ONE POUND
- LOUD SPEAKER OUTPUT
- FULLY TRANSISTORIZED
- EASY TO OPERATE
- DRIFT FREE TUNING
- TEMPERATURE COMPENSATION
- INTERCHANGEABLE LOOPS
- FULL 36" HANDLE
- 9 VOLT BATTERY
- MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

149⁰⁰

to

27⁵⁰



MODEL 350

'THE BOUNTY'

47⁵⁰

'ROTH'
UNITS HAVE EQUALED.
AND OUT-PERFORMED
OTHER LOCATORS COSTING
UP TO FIVE TIMES AS MUCH

ORDER DIRECT, SEE YOUR DEALER OR WRITE FOR YOUR FREE CATALOG

Roth +

DEPT. 170

INDUSTRIES — BOX 90993, WORLD WAY, LOS ANGELES, CA. 90009

higher than 111 degrees. They forage at night and during rains. They never are active in winter. So, when long periods of excessive heat and drouth or excessive cold set in, the Gila monster takes himself out of circulation.

Safely ensconced underground, he lives off fat piled on during good times and conserved by lazy living. Fat is distributed around his muscles throughout his body and wadded here and there in his belly. The main storage depot, however, is in his broad thick tail, which Schneider's detail anatomical study showed to be exceedingly well-designed for the purpose: two big compartments of fat lie above his tail vertebrae and two below, arranged in lobes closely packed together in a series, much like kernels on an ear of corn.

With a fat accumulation like this for life-saving energy and with his body processes slowed way down, the lizard is good easily for a year's fast, longer if things are really tough. Emerging when the rains come and food is available, he piles on fat quickly, his emaciated tail resuming its thick, round appearance. Unlike many lizards who lose their tails in

accidents, or on purpose as escape tactics, the Gila monster does not have a fracture point in his tail. Hence, he never parts with this important storehouse of energy.

During active times, the Gila monster gets the water he needs from his prey. His body, too, is well protected against excessive water loss by his scales and by bony plates embedded in his thick skin. Bogert and del Campo found that their captives like to sit in pans of water when the air temperature is high, so in the wild they must take on added moisture when abroad in summer rains. The big lizards can swim, it seems, awkwardly paddling along. While their heavy rounded tails are not good oars, they do add propulsion, all in all good enough to save their lives in flash floods.

Along about the end of May the Gila monster bestirs himself for wooing which, as is to be expected, he conducts with as little trouble as possible. Mrs. Gila monster puts a dozen or so soft oval eggs in a hole in damp sand with a southwest exposure, covers them up, and leaves the rest to the sun. Some thirty days or so later, hatchlings about three to four inches long appear. On their own from

the start, these miniature monsters have their teeth and poison equipment already installed, and they know how to defend themselves. They know how to find food and what to do when it's too hot or too cold. Best of all they know the tribal secret of survival in the vast and desolate desert. Flattened out, chin, trunk, tail all touching the ground, their eyes closed, they put in a lot of time just resting. Doing nothing, these infant idlers are already on their way to success. □

Auxiliary Gas Tanks

NUMBER 27

CON-FEAR

AMERICA'S LARGEST OFF-ROAD VEHICLE ACCESSORY HEADQUARTERS

4-Wheel Drive & Dune Buggy ENTHUSIAST 1971 CATALOG 100's of items for dune buggy and 4WD Vehicles Send \$1.00 for catalog and decal 300 N. Victory Blvd., Burbank, Calif., 91502



High Sierra's Mt. Whitney elevation: 14,495 ft.

Year-Round Fun Spot

Go high, go low, Lone Pine California is the gateway to it all!

Try us!

You'll be glad you did.

Death Valley's Badwater elevation: -284 ft.

Lone Pine

Where Recreation Unlimited Begins!

"The Traveler's Friend"

FINE FOOD AND EXCELLENT ACCOMMODATIONS

ALL MAJOR SERVICE STATIONS

Sponsored by Lone Pine Chamber of Commerce





DEATH

Sunset near Stove Pipe Wells

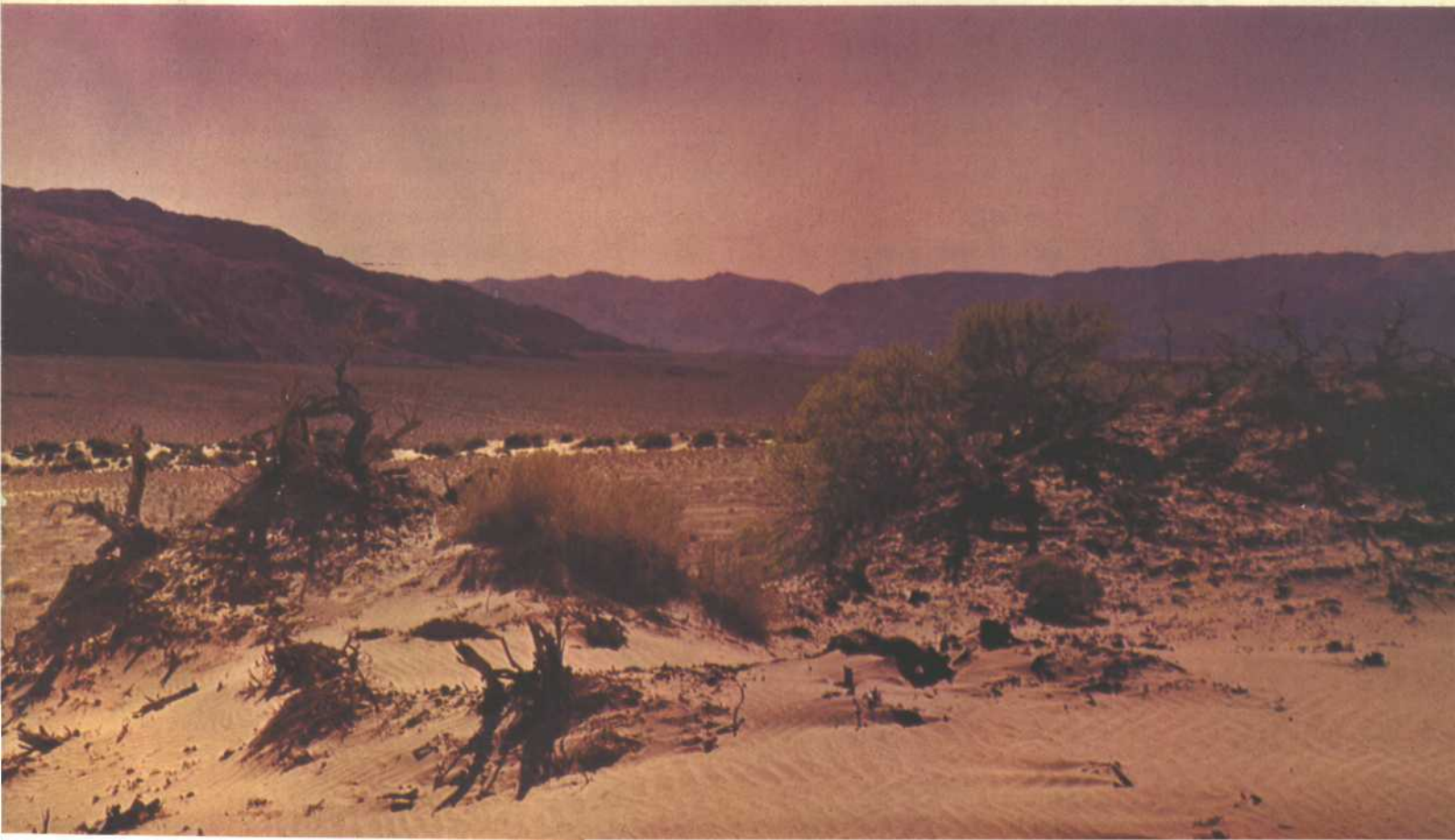


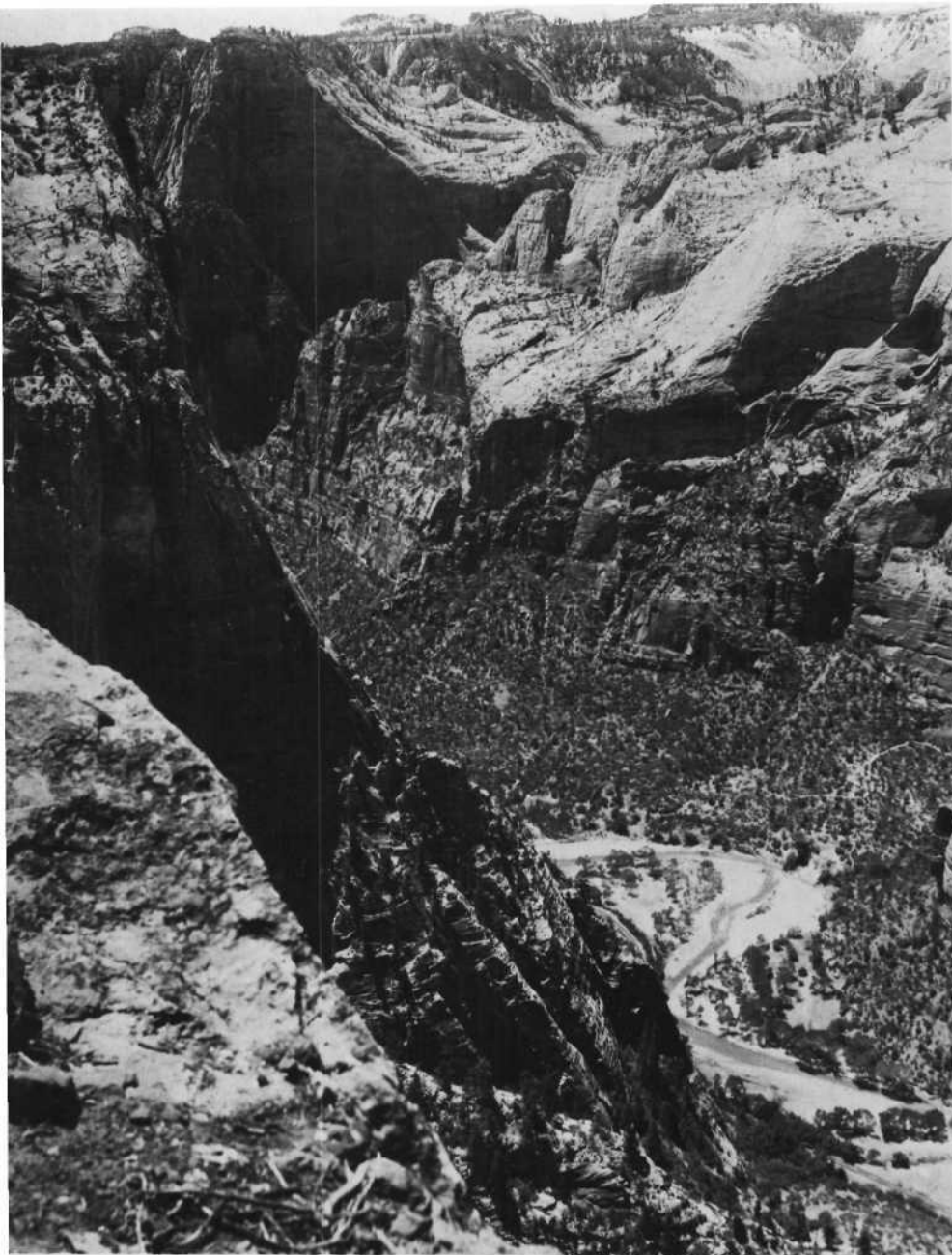


View from Zabriskie Point

VALLEY

by Carlos Elmer





Zion Canyon (left) as seen from the top of Cable Mountain. The Virgin River meanders through the canyon more than 2,000 feet below the upper level. Top section of the unique aerial tramway (right) still stands. Do NOT climb on platform or go too close to edge of canyon wall.



SILHOUETTED AGAINST the bright blue sky, directly above the Weeping Rock parking lot in Zion National Park, two tiny rod-like objects can be seen at the top of the cliff. These objects, which are actually logs, helped fulfill a prophecy made by Brigham Young over 100 years ago when he told settlers in southern Utah that, "... lumber would come down from those high ledges like a hawk flying!"

The less faithful of Young's flock figured that "Brother Brigham" had something less than divine inspiration when he made this prophecy. It was between two and three thousand feet from the tops of the great white cliffs to the bottom of the canyon, and any lumber that "flew" off the top would surely be smashed to smithereens on the rocks below.

Young's prophecy did come true. In 1901, David Flannigan, an uneducated but inventive young Irishman, rigged an ingenious system of drums and pulleys in two hand-hewn wooden structures, located 3,300 feet apart, at the top and the bottom of the cliff. Around the drums he wound some 50,000 feet of telegraph wire which had been freighted over a rough road from Salt Lake City, some 300 miles to the north. Gravity provided the power to operate this strange, homemade contraption and, for the next 20 years, lumber did come down from the high ledges, "like a hawk flying."

"...Like a Hawk Flying"

by Earl Spendlove



Flannigan perfected the operation of the unique aerial tramway, then in 1908, sold it to "Big Frank" H. Petty, an experienced sawmill operator. Petty installed a braided steel cable, moved a mill onto the mountain, and for the next eight years he and his two sons, Charles B. and "Little Frank," sent lumber down the thin steel strands. Charles, who now lives in Salt Lake City, Utah, tells some chilling tales of the things that happened during their years in Zion Canyon, long before it became a National Park.

The summer of 1908 was an eventful one. Shortly after the Pettys took over, Quimby Stuart, a young daredevil, straddled a pile of boards and rode them to the bottom of the canyon. Little Frank, six-feet-two and 180 pounds, followed him down. A few days later Big Frank, who weighed almost 300 pounds, decided he would ride the lumber to the bottom, rather than make the long walk down the trail. Under his great weight, the cable sagged, the boards dragged over the rock and scraped the chain off one end of the lumber. The drum was stopped just in time to keep him from plunging to his death.

One end of the boards was in the box attached to the cable. The other, no longer supported by the chain, was resting on the edge of the cliff. Big Frank, his legs dangling over 2,000 feet of nothing, sat in the middle. For almost an hour he hung on for dear life. Finally the crew got another chain around the lumber and

fastened it to the cable. Then he glided gracefully to the bottom and enjoyed every minute of the ride.

Although no one was killed while the aerial tramway was actually in operation, several serious accidents occurred. A man narrowly escaped being dragged over the cliff when a hook, caught in his hand, tore loose at the very last minute. Charles Petty was almost killed when he was caught unexpectedly by the box as it started up from the bottom of the canyon. Before he could think, he was swept to the top of the tall cottonwood trees,

then dropped heavily to the ground.

The most serious tragedy connected with the cable occurred on July 28, 1908, a bright, hot Sunday morning. As they watched the great thunderheads build above the west wall of the canyon, Charles Petty, his bride of one month, and two other young couples started to the structure on the edge of the precipice for a picnic. Their four young friends went on ahead and were standing on the platform that hung out over the canyon when lightning struck the cable. Two young men were burned to a crisp and a girl was left hanging unconscious on the railing.

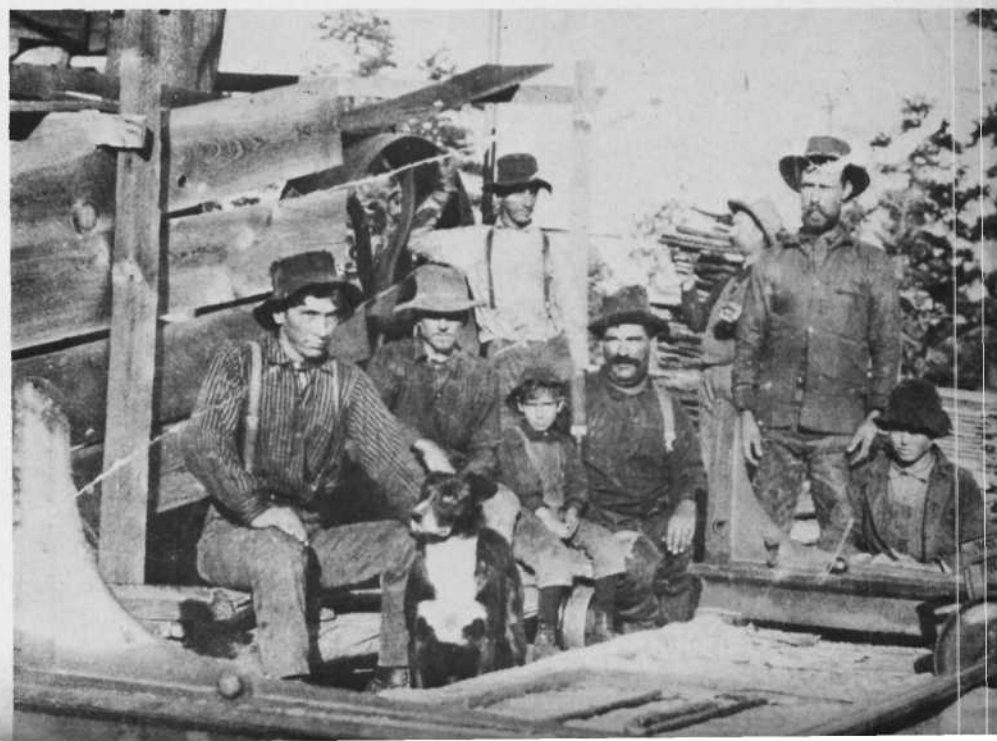
In 1909, a mysterious fire destroyed the structure on the edge of the cliff and the cable dropped into the canyon. It took several days to pull the tangled wire out of the oak brush, roll it up, and haul it over the long, rough, round-about road to the top of the mountain.

In the fall of 1915, Petty sold the mill and cable to David Lemmon, a man who had worked on the device from the beginning. By 1920, the timber was gone, so he abandoned the cable and moved his mill to another location. For the next few years the long, metal lines stretched unused from the river bottom to the top of the cliff.

After Zion National Park was created in 1919, more and more people flocked to the canyon to enjoy the grandeur of the towering red and white cliffs. In

Continued on page 31

Old photograph shows the original tramway crew. "Little Frank" is seated in center, with his son, Edgar, on his right.





Death Valley Scotty

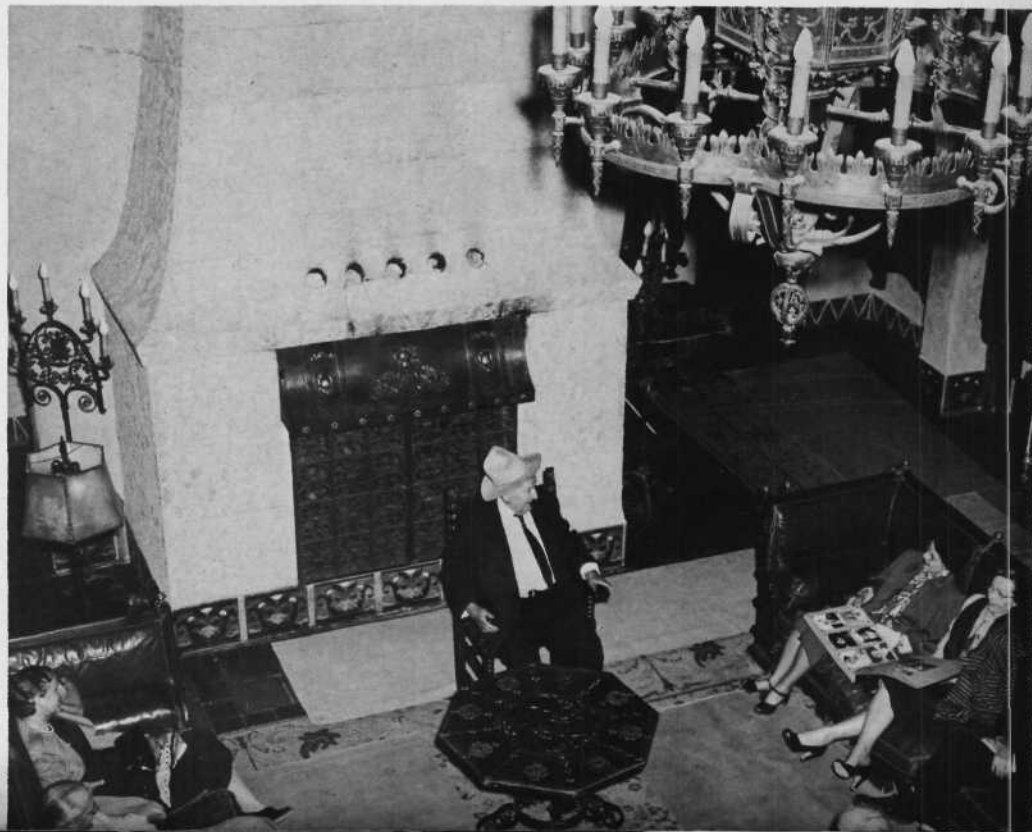
by
Helen
Walker

FEW MEN become legends in their own time—Walter Scott did. Newspapers tagged him Death Valley Scotty and heralded his exploits in headlines all over the world. He was the envy of most men because he did the things that they only dreamed about doing.

Scotty was many things; prospector, horseman, adventurer and dreamer. In fact, at times it was difficult to know where the truth ended and fantasy stepped in, which is the way Scotty planned.

Death Valley was Scotty's kingdom—he lived as a recluse, prospected at his will, and created a myth about a gold mine, the location of which was a secret between himself and his blue mule. Neither was guilty of betrayal.

Newspapers spread their first headlines about Scotty in June, 1905. Flashing the first of his famous rolls of currency, Scotty ordered a special train from Santa Fe Railroad. With it, he broke the travel



time record between Los Angeles and Chicago—a record of 45 hours which held for the next 30 years. Some said his folly cost as high as \$100,000 but later figures showed his ticket to be only \$5,500.

Prospecting had its ups and downs, in fact early in 1900 it had let Scotty down, and he was looking for someone to grubstake him. He remembered Julian Gerard, vice president of the Knickerbocker Trust Company, whom he had met while riding in the Wild West Show. Gerard agreed to the grubstake, but he insisted upon Scotty signing a contract which would give each of them a 50-50 claim to any mine that was discovered during the term of the grubstake. Scotty agreed. He would have signed anything to get his hands on money once again!

Scotty prospected in Death Valley for the next three years. He ran the grubstake up to nearly \$10,000 before finally admitting defeat to Gerard.

In later years, when Scotty had mysteriously come into money, he again visited Gerard. This time he offered to repay the grubstake—Gerard refused his offer. He contended that he took a chance on a gold mine—no mine made them both losers. However, Gerard had a natural curiosity as to how Scotty had come into his apparent wealth. Upon questioning by Gerard, Scotty replied that "he stole it."

This only added to Gerard's suspicion

and over the next 40 years, Gerard spent more than \$100,000, having Scotty followed and investigated, but it was fruitless. Gerard took the case into court in 1941, but he failed to produce evidence that Scotty had a mine and lost his case.

Albert Johnson was another whose life crossed paths with Scotty. Johnson had been a victim of a train accident which left him suffering much pain and a partial paralysis. At Scotty's suggestion, Johnson came to Death Valley where Scotty assured him he would regain his health.

The sun and dry climate worked their miracles. Johnson and Scotty traveled over the hills, into the valleys and across the hot desert sands of Death Valley. They shared many a serious thought, and had many a good laugh together over their campfires. It was on just such a night that Scotty revealed to Johnson his dream was to build a castle—a real castle—in the desert that was his kingdom.

Scotty's whims had always been a source of amusement to Johnson, so why not this one? If his friend and partner wanted to build a castle in the middle of Death Valley, then they would build one. He told Scotty to find someone to draw up the plans for a castle, and they would build it here, in the desert they both loved.

Grapevine Canyon was the most logical spot for this new venture. There was ample water, natural weather protection, and besides, Scotty had his original shack there.

Many famous architects played at drawing sketches for the castle, but it was C. A. MacNeillede that finally captured the real feeling of a castle with a provincial Spanish style.

His sketch showed the approach to the castle over a moat spanned by an arched bridge for foot traffic. Arches and windows were cut deep into the thick cement walls. Hand hewn beams, combined with



These three rare and intimate photographs of Death Valley Scotty were taken in 1953 at the Castle by photo-journalist Tom G. Murray and are reproduced from his book Death Valley Scotty.





Photo Courtesy Nevada Historical Society.

ornate wrought iron to create artistic gates and doorways. Three towers reached skyward above the spread of buildings.

A honeycomb of underground passageway linked together the buildings on the outer perimeter with the main house. When a curious tourist questioned Scotty about the purpose of the tunnels, his

stock reply was, "Just in case of rain, we can keep dry!"

One passageway follows along the side of the moat, or swimming pool, as Scotty called it. Windows were inserted to allow one to view through the world of water, where sun reflected its rays against the colorful tiles. As Johnson often said, "The castle grew like Topsy. If they had an idea or found a need, it was injected into the plan."

After five years of detailing the plans, architect MacNeillede and his engineer, Roy Thompson, began their work on the project in 1923. However, a castle does not rise in the wastes of Death Valley without problems. They were numerous and their solutions took ingenuity and patience. Two of the greatest were transportation of materials and working crews.

To keep work progressing, Scotty

One of the few existing photographs of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Johnson and Scotty was taken at the Castle during early 1940.

claimed he had one crew working, one leaving and another being hired. Transporting materials to this remote spot was another situation. Every stick of wood and sack of cement had to be hauled in. The end of the rail line was Bonnie Clair, 50 miles away. From this point, teams and wagons labored with their loads over rough, hot and dusty roads. In some instances, materials were brought by burro from Barstow, 180 miles distant.

When news came the railroad tracks were going to be torn up, 18 carloads of sack cement and enough lumber to finish the job were hauled up and stored in the warehouse. Then, Scotty and Johnson bought the railroad ties and had them stored in Grapevine Canyon. This 150-year supply of wood would provide winter warmth and cheer to the castle's 18 fireplaces. The crackling fire was for atmosphere and visual comfort, as the castle had a very elaborate heating system built into it.

Furnishings for the castle were purchased, for the most part, in Europe. In some instances, artisans were brought directly to the castle, where they did their design and work on the premises. Furniture reflects a classic period, combining durability and comfort in a unique manner. Colors and texture of the surrounding desert seem to flow through the walls and into each room—a delightful combination.

Spanish red tiles pave the floors and corridors. They are overlain with hand woven rugs that were shipped from the Spanish islands of Majorca. Draperies are of soft, tooled leather which from a distance resemble a very fine brocade. Hand embroidery is displayed in wall

BREAKFAST
ANYTIME

OPEN 7 DAYS
24 HOURS
A DAY

206 S. MAIN

SPORTSMAN'S CAFE

LONE PINE, CALIF.



In the heart of DEATH VALLEY

Historic
STOVE PIPE WELLS VILLAGE

Centrally located as a base from which to visit Death Valley's numerous points of interest. Stay with us and enjoy comfort and friendly service as you tour the area. Home of the famous Burro-Flapjack races.

Luxurious new units Beautiful new dining room, cocktail lounge
Gift Shop Heated Pool General Store Service Station
Landing Strip Campground

WRITE OR CALL:

STOVE PIPE WELLS VILLAGE

Death Valley, California 92328

Area Code 714 Stove Pipe Wells #1 Toll Station

FREE 1972

**140 PAGE
CATALOG**

OF DETECTORS—BOOKS—MAPS
GENERAL ELECTRONIC DETECTION CO.

16238 Lakewood Blvd.
Bellflower, California 90706

hangings, tapestry and bed spreads. Throughout the castle the doors are fashioned of wood panels, and each opens and closes with the use of a wrought iron thumb latch, thus keeping the medieval tradition.

The music room is decorated in the style of Spanish Gothic, and resembles a chapel. Its ceiling is paneled with heavy wood beams, and from it are suspended magnificent chandeliers. Windows are draped in heavy red velvet. Two grand pianos and a \$100,000 pipe organ are available for a musician's pleasure. The organ may be operated either manually or electrically.

The castle had its inception before Death Valley had a tourist season. But when motorists found travel to this remote area was possible, they wanted to see the famed castle. Eight miles of fencing surrounded the site, but still they came. Roy Thompson once remarked, "You would think we were running a side show—why last Sunday nearly 90 people arrived just to see what was going on up here!"

Work continued on the castle until 1931. At that time, about 80% of the planned construction was finished. Much of the material that was stockpiled is now stored in the passageways under the castle. Included among the materials are the 15,000 turquoise tiles that were to have been used on the swimming pool.

Tours were finally organized to allow the public to visit the castle, and a few rooms were available for overnight stays from about 1941. Even so, Johnson and Scotty maintained the castle as a home base for many years.

The partnership of Johnson and Scotty was perhaps the most widely publicized combination of their time. When questioned about his relationship with Scotty, Johnson always answered, "Scotty had a

great appetite for money. I loaned it to him, and he more than repaid me with laughs." The "laughs" cost more than \$2,000,000!

Death separated the Johnson-Scotty partnership in 1948 when Johnson died. Scotty passed away in 1954 at the age of 81.

At the time of Johnson's death, as planned, the castle was turned over to the Gospel Foundation of California and tours of the castle and grounds were conducted under their guidance. Approximately 200,000 people a year slipped their feet into flannel booties and scuffed their way through the castle.

In August of 1970, the National Park Service purchased the famed castle for \$850,000. The purchase included 1,620 acres that surround the castle, plus all the properties that were held by the Johnson-Scotty partnership. Activities have remained the same as before, with tours being conducted on a similar schedule. Future plans include a visitors facility, informational displays, and necessary castle rehabilitation. The development will be considered a part of the master plan for Death Valley National Monument.

Scotty lays at rest on a hilltop above his famed castle. Below him spreads his dream, cast in cement forms—a monument that will keep alive for generations to come the legend that was Death Valley Scotty. Lost, perhaps forever, is the one

secret Scotty never revealed—did Scotty have a gold mine, and if so, where in this valley he loved was it hidden? Truly a living legend for you to ponder — as Scotty meant it to be. □

TREASURE HUNTERS -PROSPECTORS-

FREE

CATALOG

METAL-MINERAL DETECTORS
WHITES - METROTECH - GOLDAK
DETECTRON - FISHER
EXCELSIOR - PRECISION

DREDGES
DRY WASHERS
MAPS
SLUICE BOXES
ROCK TUMBLERS
TOOLS
ASSAY KIT
MINERAL LIGHTS
OTHER
RELATED EQUIPMENT

AURORA

6286 BEACH BLVD.
BUENA PARK, CALIFORNIA 90620
Phone (714) 521-6321

Don't visit Death Valley without seeing



SCOTTY'S CASTLE

Operated by National Park Concessions, Inc.

GUIDED TOURS THROUGH THE CASTLE GIFT SHOP
SNACKS AND REFRESHMENTS GAS AND OIL

DEATH VALLEY, CALIFORNIA

Authorized JEEP Sales and Service

LARGEST SUPPLY OF
NEW AND USED JEEP PARTS
IN THE WEST.

Looking for a Jeep—Try us!

BRIAN CHUCHUA'S
FOUR WHEEL DRIVE CENTER

Dept. DM 1625 S. Harbor Blvd.
Fullerton, California



Photo by George Service

Be foxy...

**save time and money
with
gift subscriptions!**

PLEASE USE ENVELOPE ENCLOSED OR COUPON ON PAGE 41

"... LIKE A HAWK FLYING"

Continued from page 25

1926, a group of young people from Orderville, Utah came to the canyon for a celebration. They discovered the cable and had great fun climbing and swinging on it. Suddenly, and without warning, a heavy iron at the top shook loose and came whistling down the cable, singing a song of death as it came. The iron struck a man and almost decapitated him. Shortly after this, the National Park Service took down the cable and removed the lower structure. The one at the top of the cliff was left in place.

If you are an adventurous soul, willing to drive a few miles over a dirt road and walk a half mile down a rocky trail, you can look into the past and see the long abandoned timber framework.

The road to the top of Cable Mountain starts a mile and a half east of the east entrance of the Park where you turn north onto a graveled road. Before you make the trip, however, check with rangers at Park Headquarters. They know current road conditions and can give you tips that can save you time and trouble.

After you leave the highway, follow the gravel road for a little over five miles to the northwest where a big sign proclaims that you are about to enter the "Little Ponderosa, Home of East Zion's Hunting Club." Turn west onto a dirt road that leads through a gate and wanders two miles to the southwest to the Park boundary. It's a mile from the Park boundary to the site of the old mill that sawed the lumber that went down the cable and the road leads through a young stand of Ponderosa Pines that have grown up around the big stumps that have been decaying on the hillsides for a half a hundred years.

It's a little over two miles from the old mill to the end of the road. Leave your car here and follow the trail a half mile down to the canyon rim. Here, basking in the sunlight, is a weathered timber structure that has not been used in a half a century. If great heights don't frighten you, look over the edge of the ledge and imagine sitting astride a pile of boards and soaring down to the bottom of the canyon on a thin cable that sways from side to side in the canyon breeze. □

Death Valley '49ers National Encampment Program



THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11

- 7:30 p.m.—CAMPFIRE, Stove Pipe Wells Village. Community singing and talks about old-timers, followed by dancing.
- 8:30 p.m.—NATURALIST TALK, Museum and Visitors' Center, Furnace Creek Ranch.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12

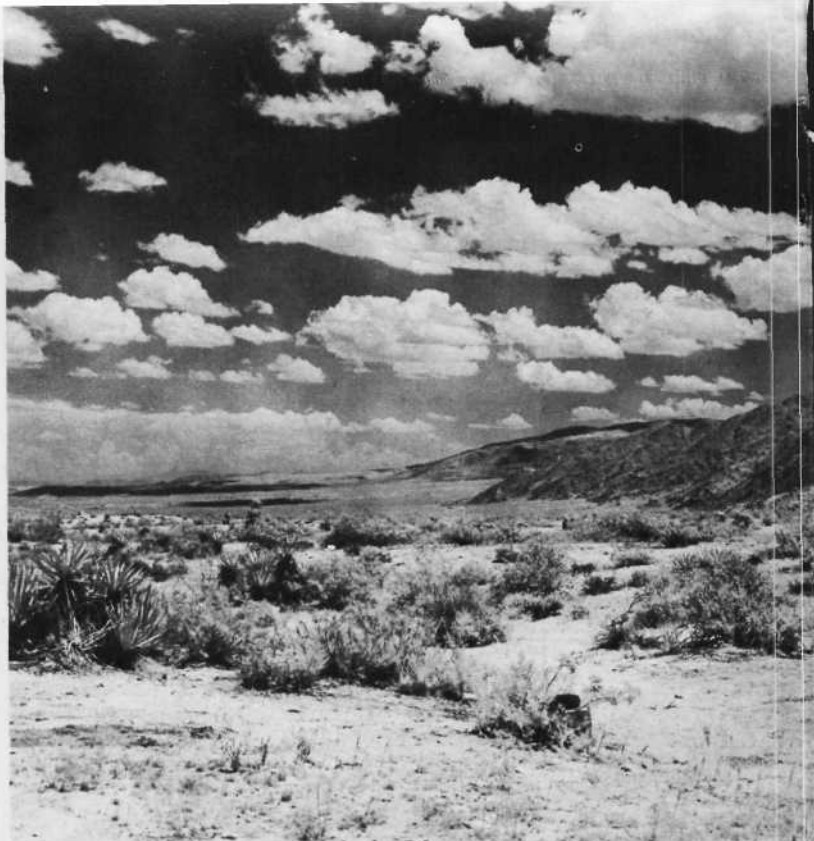
- 6:00 a.m. — SAND DUNES PHOTO SHOOT, Sand Dunes Campground. Photography with props and models. Bring camera and plenty of film.
- 8:00 a.m.—HISTORICAL BREAKFAST, Stove Pipe Wells Village. Robert J. Murphy, Supt. of Death Valley National Monument, principal speaker.
- 8:00 a.m.—HOOTENANNY BREAKFAST, Furnace Creek Golf Course. Hootenany Hoedown. Price, \$1.75.
- 10:30 a.m. — HISTORICAL MONUMENT DEDICATION, Highway 190 just west of Stovepipe Wells Village. The old Eichbaum Toll Road to be dedicated with an appropriate monument. Mrs. Paul DeDecker, principal speaker.
- 10:30 a.m.—CONDUCTED TOUR, starting at Visitors' Center, to Ubehebe Crater, Scotty's Castle and North End points. Use your vehicle.
- 1:30 p.m.—DEATH VALLEY TRAIL RIDERS arrive at Furnace Creek Ranch after 125-mile horseback ride.
- 7:30 p.m.—CAMPFIRE, Texas Springs. Community Sing led by Dick Hilleary. Historical talks.
- 8:30 p.m.—NATURALIST TALK, Museum and Visitors' Center, Furnace Creek Ranch.
- 9:00 p.m.—DANCING FOR EVERYONE, western and modern, Stove Pipe Wells Village. Also dancing at Furnace Creek Ranch.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13

- 8:00 a.m.—PHOTOGRAPHERS' BREAKFAST, Stove Pipe Wells Village. LeRoi Russel, well-known nature photographer, will be featured speaker.
- 8:00 a.m.—AUTHORS' BREAKFAST, Furnace Creek Golf Course. Present will be outstanding writers of the West. Featured speaker is Clement W. Meighan, Professor of Anthropology, Univ. of California.
- 10:00 a.m.—CONDUCTED TOUR starting at Visitors' Center through center of Valley and ending at Stove Pipe Wells in time for chuck wagon.
- 12:00 Noon—CHUCK WAGON LUNCH, Stove Pipe Wells Village, Western style chuck wagon chow. Price, \$1.75.
- 2:00 p.m.—BURRO FLAPJACK SWEEPSTAKES, Stove Pipe Wells Village. A hilarious race of old prospectors and their burrows who must walk around the arena, cook a flapjack and then feed it to the burro. Action is right in front of spectators.
- 7:30 p.m.—EVENING ASSEMBLY, Furnace Creek Ranch. Color slide show by LeRoi Russel.
- 8:45 p.m.—OLD - FASHIONED FIDDLERS' CONTEST, same location as above. Best fiddlers in the West compete.
- 8:30 p.m.—NATURALIST TALK, Visitors' Center, Furnace Creek Ranch.
- 9:00 p.m.—DANCING FOR EVERYONE, Stove Pipe Wells Village and Furnace Creek Ranch.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14

- 7:00 a.m.—PROTESTANT SUNRISE SERVICE, Desolation Canyon.
- 7:30 a.m.—CATHOLIC MASS, Visitors' Center, Furnace Creek Ranch.
- 8:30 a.m.—ARTISTS' BREAKFAST, Furnace Creek Golf Course. Top-flight Western artists work on a new western scene plus display of their works. Sale of paintings. Price, \$1.75.
- 10:30 a.m.—CONDUCTED TOUR, starting at Visitors' Center and going to south section of the Valley.
- 7:30 p.m.—NATURALIST TALK, Visitors' Center, Furnace Creek Ranch.



CAN CALIFORNIA'S

IN 1954, Walt Disney released a major documentary motion picture and a companion book, both of which were entitled, "The Living Desert."

Millions of people who had thought of the desert as a barren wasteland were exposed to the subtle beauty of the lands and the mysteries of the animals and plants which were the "actors" in his colorful "true-life adventures." Disney

ended his presentations—based mainly on the California deserts—by saying:

"For Nature's design for the desert is a permanent one. Nature preserves her work, and over the long eternity of time perpetuates one of her greatest miracles—the endless wonder of the Living Desert."

Today, that Living Desert is being spoiled. It may even die if man continues

to defy and prevent Nature from preserving her work and designs for the perpetuation of the desert.

Man must form a partnership with Nature to preserve the deserts—and the partnership must be formed now—for time is running out. Why is time running out and what are the penalties of inaction?

Vast areas—both private and public—

by
Jack
Pepper
Editor
of
DESERT
Magazine

"Vandals must be stopped from defacing the land, destroying private property and looting graves . . ."





DESERTS SURVIVE?

once open to camping families are now closed due to vandalism. And the "off limit" signs are going up every day.

Rare or endangered wildlife and plant species may become extinct.

Answers to problems of anthropology, archeology and paleontology will never be found due to destruction of artifacts, fossils and remains.

Historical buildings and prehistoric

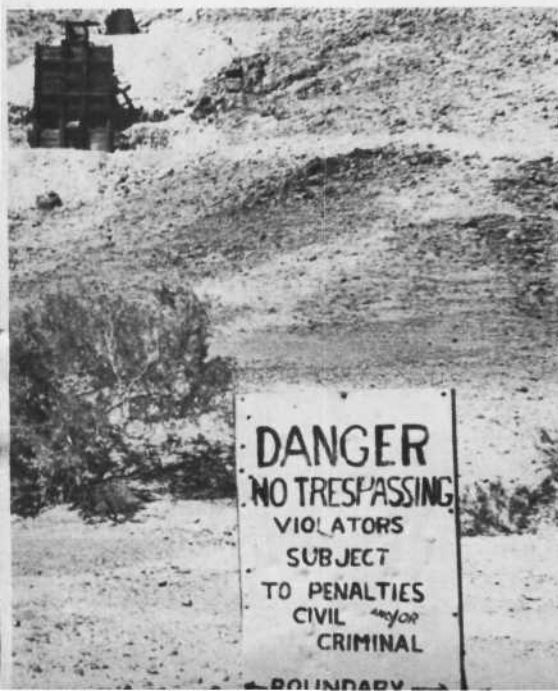
Indian dwellings are being leveled by wanton action of some treasure hunters—including the digging of graves.

The indiscriminate killing of wildlife is upsetting the balance of Nature and starting a chain reaction which could endanger all of the more than 200 species. Already some, such as the Bighorn Sheep, are in danger of complete extermination.

The fragile topsoil of the desert and

the vegetation and small delicate wildflowers are being disrupted and killed by *RECKLESS* drivers of motorcycles, dune buggies and four-wheel-drive vehicles. The destruction of watersheds by these people is resulting in flood damage to the land.

Littering is not only causing the fouling of the desert, but is costing California taxpayers thousands of dollars for



cleanups.

Noise makers, using vehicles and other methods, are increasing and preventing the average camper from enjoying the solace of the desert.

You can undoubtedly add many other items to this list, and then ask yourself—as many Desert Magazine readers have asked in letters—but what can I do about it?

Before answering that question, let's examine some facts compiled during an exhaustive two-year research by the

United States Bureau of Land Management and published recently in their report entitled, *The California Desert—A Critical Environmental Challenge*.

(The Bureau of Land Management, which we will refer to henceforth as B.L.M., is a part of the U.S. Department of the Interior. It is the administrative department for all public lands in the United States. In its role as steward of these lands, the B.L.M. operates on a principle of public participation. This principle was spelled out by Congress in

the Classification and Multiple-Use Act of 1964.)

The California Desert (in which are the Mojave, Colorado and part of the Sonoran Deserts) extends from the Sierra Nevada Mountains and north of Death Valley south some 240 miles to the Mexican Border, and west from the Colorado River over 100 miles to the fringes of the vast Los Angeles coastal metropolitan area. Of these 25,000 miles or 16 million acres, 17,000 square miles or 11 million acres are owned by all the people of the United States and administered by the B.L.M. By "all the people of the United States" means it is your land.

It includes not only the desert lands but also the mountain ranges, plateaus, basins, dry lake beds, rivers and lakes, all of which have a multitude of mineral, botanical, biological, scientific and recreational riches.

If it is that big, why isn't there room for everybody and why the worry? According to J. R. (Russ) Penny, California director for the B.L.M., there were 5 million visitor days of use during 1970. Conservative estimates forecast 7.8 million visitor-use days by 1980 and 13.2 million by 2000. These figures could easily be increased to 29 million by 1980 and 50 million by the year 2000.

Most of these visitors come to the desert during weekends and tend to congregate in areas offering the most recreational facilities. The California Desert is truly being invaded. This invasion must be controlled and regulated in order to protect this vast and valuable recreational real estate from being destroyed.

In its report, the Bureau of Land Management states:

"Despite the production of hundreds of millions of dollars worth of minerals, forage, crops, and materials; despite the presence of remarkable historic, cultural, scientific and educational values; despite the sometimes intangible social and recreational use by millions of people every year; there are great gaps in our accumulated knowledge of the California Desert. More important, there has been no effort made to consider the whole, to evaluate total environment. Without this evaluation the unchecked, single purpose invasions into the California Desert constitute environmental brinkmanship of the most dangerous order.

"It must be the goal of the Bureau of

714 876-5670

Friendship Inn **The Motel Trails**



633 SOUTH MAIN ST., LONE, PINE, CALIFORNIA

Your Hosts: DALE and HAZEL QUAST

18 UNITS - INDIVIDUALLY CONTROLLED REFRIGERATED COOLING AND ELECTRIC HEAT - COLOR TV - COFFEE KING AND QUEEN SIZE BEDS - ROOM PHONES - NICE HEATED SWIMMING POOL (IN SEASON)



You'll love Lone Pine
and the food at...



Bobo's Bonanza

"Something for Everyone"

BURGERS

SHAKES

DINNERS

STEAKS

Children's Menu

CENTER OF TOWN—LONE PINE, CALIFORNIA



Land Management to meet the major predicted needs of the 1980s for the California Desert and its resources with full understanding of, regard for, and protection of its environmental values. The accelerating increase in demand for the use of the desert will require a major program of investment and management."

In order to accomplish the above, the B.L.M. has proposed a long-range program which would take an inventory of our public land so as to manage it in the best interests of all concerned, and to immediately instigate action which will protect the desert while the comprehensive plan is being completed and implemented. Desert Magazine believes this is a sound policy and program.

We believe it is not only a sound policy, but a necessary one to preserve our deserts for the "interests" of all concerned." And those "interests" include the rights of miners, cattlemen, scientists, naturalists and those who use the deserts as a recreational area.

The latter includes families looking for the peace and quiet of the desert and some motorcycle and dune buggy people

who want areas for racing their vehicles. Under the multiple-use plan, areas will be set aside for racing and for large-scale four-wheel-drive meets. However, to protect those looking for peace and quiet, these activities will not be allowed except in designated places.

We have outlined the primary reasons and objectives of the plan of the Bureau of Land Management to protect our desert areas. Details of the report are too lengthy to present in this article.

To put this vital plan in operation, Bill H.R. 9661 was introduced in the House of Representatives on July 8, 1971 by Congressman Bob Mathias, of Bakersfield, California. Twenty-seven other congressmen are co-sponsors and the list of supporters of the bill, including organizations of all structures, is growing daily.

The bill calls for an appropriation of \$28,600,000 for the program which is to be completed by June 30, 1978. Desert Magazine feels this is a reasonable amount to protect 11,000,000 acres of real estate valued at billions of dollars and which is owned by the average citizen.

We urge those interested in preserving and protecting the California Desert to write or send a telegram supporting H.R. 9661 to: Mr. Wayne Aspinall, Chairman, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, Washington, D.C. 20515.

There is a scientific reserve, in Riverside County, which encompasses some of the most fragile flora and a concentration of rare wildlife to be found in the West. It was donated to a university by a private citizen for scientific study. To protect its ecology the small area is fenced off and posted with signs telling the public the reason for the restrictions.

Recently the explanation on the main gate was defaced by someone who smeared the word "freedom" over the sign. Several days later the fence was cut and vehicles ran over some vital scientific testing equipment.

If this type of "freedom" continues, the real freedom for us to travel through the desert, enjoy the sunsets, photograph the flowers and animals and breathe pure air will be lost forever. To protect our true freedom we must take an active part in the protection of our heritage. □

PROSPECTING & MINING SUPPLIES



**SEND FOR
THE NEW 1971
FREE CATALOG**

PROSPECTOR'S SPECIAL

Reg. Price \$34.90
Save 4.95
SPECIAL \$29.95



GOLD RETRACTING MAGNET

MINI SLUICE BOX



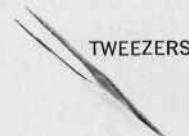
SLUICING SHOVEL



PROSPECTORS PICK
AND
PLASTIC GOLD PAN



BOOK



TWEEZERS

KEEN ENGINEERING

DEPT. DM-1
11483 Vanowen St., No. Hollywood, CA 91605
(213) 764-6114 - (213) 877-7240

MOTHER LODE DIVING SHOP
2001 Capital St. (Downtown Sacramento)
Dept. DM-1, Sacramento, CA 95814

MAIN OFFICE AND FACTORY

NORTH CALIFORNIA BRANCH



The Man Who Walked To Gold!

by Lois Wolf Buist

THERE ARE some men who never achieve greatness by the accepted standards. They neither do a great right nor a great wrong, yet they live in immortality. Such a man was Shorty Harris. His grave, not far from Badwater in Death Valley, is marked by a stone monument with a bronze tablet. Part of the inscription reads, *Here lies Shorty Harris, a single blanket jackass prospector.*

He was simply a grizzled, short (5 feet tall) man who traipsed the canyons of Death Valley in search of gold. But Shorty did have a special kind of claim to fame. He gave a colorful history to Death Valley. He found—and lost—the most gold mines. He was the shortest man and yet told the tallest tales. He was the most generous and the kindest. And he made

more millionaires out of other men than any old-time prospector.

A sheriff who knew him well said, "Shorty Harris has put more towns on the map and more taxable property on the assessors' books than any other prospector." And at his funeral, he had the largest crowd that had ever assembled in Death Valley. He has had more books, short stories, plays and commentaries written about him than any other man of that era.

Born in Rhode Island in 1857, he was named Frank Harris but was called "Shorty" because of his stature. He ran away from home at the age of 14 and was in his 20s by the time he reached Death Valley. But already he had a reputation as wild as the land he would soon come to tramp. When he would reach a new town, whatever money he happened to have would be spent in one evening. Saloon girls got new dresses, everyone got free drinks and bums got lavish handouts.

But his one big passion was for prospecting, and although he managed to find some gold on most of his trips into the canyons of Death Valley, he was always looking for a "lallapalooza."

Finally, on St. Patrick's Day in 1892, he made his first big strike. It was in the Panamint Mountains — and it was a "lallapalooza!"

Shorty's ecstasy was boundless but short-lived. He just wasn't content to stop. His great and burning desire was always to find gold, not to mine it. So he sold his St. Patrick's mine for \$7,000 and went hog wild spending the money.

He was flat broke within a few weeks, and with pick and shovel, he started out again. This time, he made the greatest strike of his life by finding a mine in the hills of Nevada. The mine (which he named the Bullfrog) became one of the sensations of the Southwest and led to the quick birth of the town of Rhyolite.

Shorty immediately bought a barrel of liquor, drove a row of nails around the barrel, hung tin dippers on the nails and invited the whole town to quench its thirst. Millionaires mushroomed overnight in Rhyolite, but Shorty was not one of them. He sold his mine for \$800, and all he would say was that he sold out when he was full of "O Be Joyful." His friends were shocked—yet a fortune blown like a bubble meant absolutely nothing to Shorty Harris. Within a year he

found the mine that started the town of Harrisburg. He made \$10,000 on that venture.

He was now known as the man who could walk to gold. People began to believe he had a secret inner sense and that he could stroll through a canyon with his eyes closed and tell in a flash if there was gold. Men began to follow him, surreptitiously at first, and finally openly. And Shorty loved it. He went from mining town to mining town, enjoying his fame and the adulation offered him.

In Ballarat he fell in love with Miss Bessie Hart. It has been said that she was over six feet tall and weighed 210 pounds. But when he proposed, Bessie said, "Shorty, I love ya, but you're just too little for this big job." Shorty answered, "I reckon so," and continued to make the rounds of the saloons and to talk and fib and brag and spend. And again, he went broke.

But since that was the usual for Shorty, he just got another burro, a pick and a shovel, and started all over again. And although he never made a big strike again like Rhyolite or Harrisburg, he always managed to find gold. It was never recorded just how many mines Shorty found, but it is an accepted fact that it was more than any other prospector.

His reputation for finding gold was closely seconded by that of being the most monumental and genial "tall-story teller" in the desert country. He loved telling the one about his burro who was suffering so much from a toothache that he went out and found a ledge of pure gold. The burro gnawed away at it until he filled his aching tooth better than any dentist could have done.

And one of Shorty's best answers to city slickers who asked about "loneliness" when traveling alone in the desert was, "Oh, I just take a deck of cards—cause no matter where I am, if I set down to play a game of solitaire I know dang well some blasted kibitzer will come along."

One of his best tales was how he once got a grubstake. A woman on a ranch outside the town of Pioche gave him a dollar to get rid of some kittens for her. Shorty couldn't kill anything, much less a bunch of helpless kittens, so he carried them back to town.

It so happened the town had a large number of rats so he sold the kittens for \$10 each. One customer didn't have

\$10, so he gave Shorty a goat. Shorty sold the goat to an old prospector for \$50—and when the goat pulled the cork out of a bottle of whiskey with his teeth and drank heartily, the prospector swore the goat was his old sidekick reincarnated and he gave Shorty an extra \$100 as a reward for finding him. So Shorty had his grubstake. He always said, "A grubstake, like gold, is where you find it."

Shorty was called an eternal optimist, yet his outlook was more than just optimism—it was as if life to him was just one long playday. He would say, "When I go out, everytime my foot touches the ground I think 'before the sun goes down I'll be worth \$10,000,000.'"

"But you never get it," someone always said.

And Shorty would stare at the offender with a sort of "you're-too-dumb" look, and say, "Who in hell wants \$10,000,000? It's the game, man, the game."

Perhaps that outlook was what gave him the reputation in later years of being a man "too tough to die." In his mind, he never gave up. When he was in his 70s and living in a small shack in Ballarat with old underwear stuffing broken panes and a bare splintered floor, he would sit in his rickety rocker and say, "I'm losing \$5,000,000 a day by sitting here."

They say that before he died in 1934 at the age of 73, he asked that he be buried standing up as his body would be on its two feet for eternity and not flat on its back as the desert had laid all other men. Whether this is true or not, he certainly was not put to rest like most other desert men.

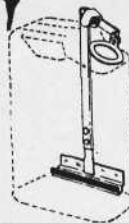
At his funeral, friends came from miles around and from all walks of life. The rich and the famous stood beside old-time prospectors. There were husky miners, silent Indians and weeping saloon girls.

Maybe the real reason why Shorty Harris will live in immortality can best be said by the words of his good friend, William Caruthers.

"He (Shorty) simply followed a jackass into far horizons, and by leaving a smile at every waterhole, a pleasant memory on every trail, attained a fame which will last as long as the annals of Death Valley." □



STOP THAT THIEF WITH LOCKSTRAP

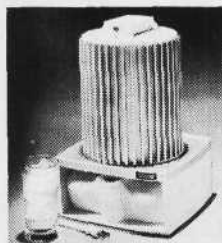


A revolutionary new design secures all G.I. cans to itself. Needs no carrier. Locks your filler cap. All steel construction, bright zinc plated.
Type C Only \$10.00

DEALER INQUIRIES INVITED.

PLUS POSTAGE, 4 LBS. Send for FREE Brochure Showing Other Models to Fit Any Vehicle.

1141 Wiltsey Rd. S.E., Salem, OR 97302



MAKE THE PUREST DISTILLED WATER IN YOUR OWN KITCHEN 24 HOURS A DAY

Convert tap water to pure, delicious spring fresh distilled water for pennies a gallon. Eliminates bad tastes, impurities and harmful bacteria. Aquaspring® purifier-distillers are fully automatic portable appliances. Take it wherever you go—weighs only 6 lbs. Plugs in like a toaster — no plumbing hookups whatever. 2 year warranty. UL approved. Write now for free information.

UNITED VITO-WAY

1930 E. Pacific, Dept. D-3
 Albany, Oregon 97321 Tel: (503) 926-3581

ZIP CODE YOUR MAIL FOR FASTER SERVICE

OFF ROAD EQUIPMENT CATALOG

CEPEK '72

NEW FREE

FOR DUNE BUGGY OWNERS 4 WHEEL DRIVE ENTHUSIASTS CAMPERS-HUNTERS-FISHERMEN

68 Pages of goodies - Priced Right!

ARMSTRONG NORSEMAN BUNA PROVEN

4 Ply 10.1" Wide 29.5" O.D.
 2 Tires & 8" Wide Wheels \$98.95
FED. EXCISE TAX INCLUDED - WE SHIP ANYWHERE!



DICK CEPEK (213) 569-1675

P.O. BOX 1181 9201 CALIFORNIA AVE. SOUTH GATE, CALIFORNIA 90280

Name _____ Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

FOREIGN ORDERS \$1. NO ZIP NO FREE CATALOG

Rambling on Rocks

by Glenn and Martha Vargas

COLOR OF MINERALS: The Elusive Character

THE INFINITE variety of colors throughout the mineral kingdom excites wonder in almost all people. Those who are observant have noticed some minerals containing certain elements usually have the same color. Copper minerals are often either green or blue. This has given rise to the thought that all blue or green rocks contain copper. This is not always true. An answer as to what makes a certain mineral red, and another green, is not always easy. There are, however, two basic types of minerals as far as color is concerned.

Some minerals are always a certain color, with the only variation being a slightly lighter or darker shade. The color is due to its basic makeup, and really cannot change. Azurite is always blue, and malachite is always green. Such minerals are known as idiochromatic minerals. The word is from the Greek—

idios and chromos—meaning one's own, and color.

The other kind of mineral is one that in the pure form is colorless or nearly so. Any color it may exhibit is usually due to an impurity of another mineral. The name for this type is allochromatic, with the prefix again from the Greek, meaning another's. This second group is by far the most common in minerals, and especially those that are cut into gems. It would seem to be a fairly safe assumption that the allochromatic minerals were colored by the idiochromatic minerals. This is no doubt true to some extent, but certainly not as much as was originally thought. Recent investigations have shown some very interesting reasons for color behavior.

For many years, the color of minerals such as amethyst was pondered greatly. It was known that quartz was colorless, as well as purple, yellow and smoky. Some investigators attributed the purple of amethyst to a minute impurity of a manganese mineral, but no one has ever found it to contain manganese. If amethyst is heated, it can be reduced in color intensity. If the heating is prolonged, the color can be removed entirely. One investigator found if he irradiated the decolorized amethyst, the purple would return. Amethyst does more strange things. The crystals from some mines, when heated, will turn yellow. Other mines produce crystals that will turn orange.

There is one mine in Brazil where the amethyst crystals will turn green when heated! Obviously, the color of amethyst cannot be due to an impurity of an idiochromatic mineral. The present thinking is that there is a slight impurity (in very small particles) scattered evenly throughout the crystal, and that all of these impurity particles lie in identical positions

Write For Gem Maker's **FREE CATALOG!**
 Showing Over 200 MACHINES AND EQUIPMENT

COVINGTON ENGINEERING CORP.
 Box 35, Redlands D. Calif. 92373

Leather Hair Bands

Hand made — all brown leather. Laced through metal eyelets and secured at the bottom with a bow. For active outdoor girls of all ages. Perfect for any sport or activity. \$2.00 pair. 25c for postage and handling. Lacettes, 9832 Tujunga Canyon Blvd., Tujunga, Calif. 91042, Dept. DM-1.

throughout. This ordered distribution allows them to filter out (absorb) all of the light except for one color. When the material is heated, the impurities are forced to alter their position where they filter no light, or allow a different color to pass. When these are irradiated (usually in a cyclotron) the particles or molecules are able to regain their former position, and the first color returns. This is evidently true for smoky quartz, which was once thought to be colored by carbon. It can be decolorized, and recolored much like amethyst.

A number of other gemstones offer another color story that is most interesting. Beryl is colorless when pure, but appears as blue (aquamarine), green (emerald), golden (heliodor) and pink (morganite). If we pick out emerald, it leads us to a surprising series. It is colored green with a small impurity of chromium oxide. The very rare demantoid garnet is also green, colored with chromium oxide. These do not seem very surprising when we find that chromium oxide (an idiochromatic mineral) is a bright green. Corundum, when pure, is colorless. Pyrope garnet is always a deep and beautiful red, and when corundum is red, it is known as ruby. The impurity that makes both of them red? You guessed it, chromium oxide!

Now we have to explain why chromium oxide colors emerald green, and ruby red. We could, with our tongue in our cheeks, say that the green probably is because the impurity itself is green. Then we could say, that in pyrope and ruby, the color is due to the absorption of all colors but red. If we are then asked why chromium oxide on its own is green, we are trapped, and must admit that in most, if not all cases, the color of transparent minerals, idiochromatic or allochromatic is due to absorption of certain colors

when light passes through it. Herein evidently lies the great secret.

The absorption of light in transparent minerals reaches its most interesting aspect in what are known as the pleochroic minerals. The prefix pleos is again Greek, meaning many. In some minerals, we can see one color through one direction, and a lighter or darker shade of the same color, or an entirely different color through other directions. These are known as dichroic (two colored) minerals. Others will show three shades or three separate colors through three directions. These are known as the trichroic (three colored) minerals. One of the finest examples of a trichroic mineral is the newly discovered gem called tanzanite, named for Tanzania, the country of its discovery. This fine gem mineral is deep blue, royal purple or orange, depending through which direction it is viewed. It is possible to take a single tanzanite crystal and cut three gems from it; one blue, another purple and the third orange!

The explanation of pleochroism is basically the same as in amethyst, ruby, etc., in that light when traveling through one crystal direction is all absorbed but one color. Light through other directions has all but some other color or shade absorbed. In some cases the absorption is due to slight impurities as noted above, while in other cases, the absorption may be due to the arrangement of the molecules of the mineral itself.

This brings us to a final question. What color is ruby, emerald, tanzanite and others? In all truth, they have no color. The molecule makeup of the crystal itself, or the impurities within, simply filters out all colors but the one we see. □



NEW! GY-ROC

BY TAGIT

Makes Tumblers
Obsolete!

\$150.00 f.o.b. Bishop, Calif.

EXCLUSIVE DISTRIBUTOR

BISHOP GEM SHOP

103 N. MAIN ST., BISHOP, CALIF. 93514

Dealer inquiries invited



Canyon Tours'
"cowboy skipper" Art Greene sez:

Howdy, partner! Come try our

LAKE POWELL BOATING ADVENTURES

50 types of boat rentals (including houseboats) for tours and sports. Guided tours to fantastic Rainbow Bridge. Fish for trout, bass, crappie.

"Try a vacation in a houseboat!"

Beautiful accommodations at
Wahweap Lodge open year-round
Luxury Dining — Cocktail Lounge



Write for brochure and information to:

CANYON TOURS, INC.
WAHWEAP LODGE & MARINA

P.O. Box 1597D
Page, Ariz. 86040
Phone 602-645-2448
or 645-2433

JEWELRY CRAFTS CATALOG

FREE!
196 pages

Lapidary — rockhounding
jewelry making... add up to
a fascinating creative art!

GET
CRAFT'S
BIGGEST
CATALOG

SEND FOR FREE CATALOG

World's largest selection — over 10,000 items offered... imports from all parts of the world.

STONES — JEWELRY MATERIALS — MOUNTINGS
BOOKS — CRAFT TOOLS — MACHINERY — SUPPLIES — ETC.

GRIEGER'S, INC.
Dept 52 — 1633 E. Walnut — Pasadena, Calif.

The Trading Post Classified Ads

• BOOKS - MAGAZINES

OUT-OF-PRINT books at lowest prices! You name it—we find it! Western Americana, desert and Indian books a specialty. Send us your wants. No obligation. International Bookfinders, Box 3003-D, Beverly Hills, Calif.

DESERT MAGAZINES, miscellaneous back issues. Send stamped, self-addressed envelope for prices. Indicate issues interested in. Hoffman's, Box 402, La Mirada, Calif. 90638.

"GEMS & MINERALS," the monthly guide to gems, minerals, and rock hobby fun. \$4.50 year. Sample 25c. Gems & Minerals, Mentone, Calif. 92359.

"PROSPECTING HINTS," by United Prospectors, \$3.00. "Western Treasures," by Rascoe, \$3.50. "Avon Bottles Photographic Price-Guide," with 250 photographs, \$2.95. "1200 Old Medicine Bottles," Bartholomew, prices, photos, \$3.95. Postpaid. Frontier Book Company, Fort Davis, Texas 79734.

WILD & WOOLLY WEST BOOKS, 30#, Rails on Narrow Gauge Trains, Yukon Poems, Book of Pancakes, Navajo Weavers & Silversmiths, Wet Plates & Dry Gulches (ghost towns), Simple Methods of Mining Gold, and others, \$1.00 each postpaid, and illustrated. Send stamp for catalog. Filter Press, Box 5D, Palmer Lake, Colorado 80133.

"OVERLOOKED FORTUNES" in minerals and gem stones; here are a few of the 300 or more you may be overlooking: uranium, vanadium, tin, tungsten, columbium, tantalum, nickel, cobalt, gold, silver, platinum, iridium, beryllium, emeralds, etc. Some worth \$1 to \$2 a pound, others \$25 to \$200 per ounce; an emerald the size of your thumb may be worth \$1000 or more; learn how to find, identify and cash in on them. New simple system. Send for free copy "Overlooked Fortunes in Minerals," it may lead to knowledge which may make you rich! Duke's Research Laboratory, Box 666-B, Truth or Consequences New Mexico 87901.

LOST DESERT GOLD, legendary and geological history of the southern California desert, with photos and maps to pinpoint locations. \$2.50 postpaid. Gedco Publishing Co., Box 67, Bellflower, Calif. 90706.

"UPPER MOJAVE DESERT," first book to reveal route of extinct Tonopah-Tidewater Railroad, original names of present towns and cities, the Borax story, biographies of pioneers. Hardbound. Many priceless photos. Only \$4.95 postpaid from author: Mary O'Conley, Baker, Calif. 92309.

RIVER OF GOLD, the richest treasure of them all. A new book "Treasure Travels" contains all new photos, maps and other valuable information on California's most fabulous treasure. \$3 postpaid. Gedco Publishing Co., Box 67, Bellflower, Calif. 90706.

SURVIVAL BOOKS! Guerrilla Warfare, Wilderness Living, Medical, Guns, Self Defense, Nature. Books—Vital, Fascinating, Extraordinary; Catalog free. Adobe Hacienda, Route 3, Box 517A, Glendale, Arizona 85301.

"DEAD MEN DO Tell Tales" By Lake Erie Schaefer. Facts about Frank Fish's mysterious death, still unexplained. Sequel to "Buried Treasure & Lost Mines" the Treasure Hunters manual. \$3 postpaid. L. Erie Schaefer, 14728 Peyton Drive, Chino, Calif. 91710.

FREE 128 page catalog on detectors, books and maps. General Electronic Detection Co., 16238 Lakewood Blvd., Bellflower, Calif. 90706.

• BOOKS - MAGAZINES

"GHOST HOMES TO VISIT"—ghost mansions open to the public in the West. Booklet tells where, what to look for, \$2.98. Golden Harvest House, Box 1484, Garden Grove, Calif. 92642.

"HOW TO GET a Good Haircut in a Barber-shop" pamphlet. Satisfaction guaranteed. \$1. Harry Lapioli, 1911 Kinsley, Dept. D, Santa Cruz, Calif. 95060.

GUIDE TO MEXICO'S gems and minerals: localities, mines, maps, directions, contacts. English-Spanish glossary, too. \$2.00 postpaid. Gemac, Mentone, Calif. 92359.

HAVE 20 VOLUMES of "Desert" from the first issue published in 1937, through year 1957. Wish to sell entire set. Make offer. H. W. Hart, 284 W. Las Flores Drive, Altadena, Calif. 91001.

GHOST TOWN DIRECTORY. More than 400 locations in 13 states. Tells exact location and condition of each town. Send \$1.50 to Ghost Towns Ltd., P. O. Box 1203, Carson City, Nevada 89701.

ANTIQUE BARBED WIRE Identification. Handbook hundreds of wires. Illustrated, names, dated, etc. Send \$1.00 to Wire Sales, Box 6392-X, Bakersfield, Calif. 93306.

• BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

UNLIMITED INCOME AVAILABLE with \$3500.00 investment in expanding international organization. Information: C. J. Brown, 5220 Carlingford Ave., Riverside, Calif. 92504. (714) 684-7898.

• EQUIPMENT

DRYWASHERS, GOLD PANS, metal detectors, books, custom Jeep seats, etc. Send for literature. Hoffman's Desert Products, Box 402, La Mirada, California 90638.

GOLD DRY Washer plans, portable hand operated, recover gold from gold diggings, from dry river beds, etc., by air principle. \$2.00. R. Bown, P.O. Box 791, Arcadia, Calif. 91006

• GEMS

SHAMROCK ROCK SHOP, 593 West La Cadena Drive, Riverside, California 92501. Parallel to Riverside Freeway. Phone 686-3956. Come in and browse; jewelry mountings, chains, supplies, minerals, slabs, rough material, equipment, black lights, metal detectors, maps, rock and bottle books.

TEN GOLD NUGGETS with "California Gold Story," \$2.00; 10 for \$15.00. A Bit of U.S.A., 3131-T North 33rd St., Phoenix, Arizona 85018.

• INDIAN GOODS

FINE RESERVATION-MADE Navajo, Zuni, Hopi jewelry. Old pawn and Kachina dolls. Navajo rugs, Yei blankets, Chimayo blankets and vests, pottery, Kaibab moccasins. A collector's paradise! Open daily 10 to 5:30, closed Tuesdays. Buffalo Trading Post, 20115 Hwy. 18, Apple Valley, Calif. 92307.

• MAPS

OLD MAP KIT. Reprints of State and Railroad maps, 70-90 years old. Send self-addressed, stamped envelope for details. Specify state. Northern Map Co., 2046 N. Tripp Ave., Dept. DM, Chicago, Illinois 60639.

• MAPS

MAPS OF PIONEER TRAILS, roads and railroads. Early towns, forts, fur posts, mining areas. Named Indian areas. Stage freight lines. Cattle trails, buffalo areas. Early telegraph lines. Early barge canals and river steamer routes. (Most everything dated.) "Northwest U.S.A. (30"x50")", "Southwest U.S.A." (30"x50") and "East-South U.S.A." (36"x45"), combined, cover 48 states. \$3.00 each or all three \$7.00. Kickapoo Maps, Box 785-G, Sandia Park, New Mexico 87047.

FOR RESEARCHERS, ADVENTURERS, treasure and relic-hunters, we offer these maps: "Road Map to Lost Mines—Buried Treasures of California" folded, \$4.00. "Road Map to California's Pioneer Towns, Ghost Towns and Mining Camps," folded or rolled, \$2.95. Both \$6.50. "Oregon Trail," a decorative pictorial, showing routes and landmarks of 1810-1860. Fine artwork, rolled, \$1.50. California tax 5%. We also offer map-making services to order. Varna Enterprises, Dept. A, P.O. Box 2216, Van Nuys, California 91404.

OVERVIEW OF MOJAVE Desert Map, new two color, 22x35 inch map on topo base. Features Ghost Towns, Mining Camps, Historic Trails and Routes, Abandoned Railroads, Indian Sites, Geology and Special Back Country to Explore. Price: \$3.00 folded, \$3.25 rolled. Desert Enterprises, Box 286-D, Ontario, Calif. 91761.

• MINING

ATTENTION PROSPECTORS! Give deed to five gold placer mining claims; one large dry washer International Caterpillar loader. Living quarters, you are in business, \$1,200 cash. Can make fortune. Give phone. P.O. Box 1574, Las Vegas, Nevada 89101.

GOLD PROSPECTORS! Man or woman. Have to sell at once, 20 acre gold placer mining claim. 108 miles from Las Vegas, black top all the way, good place to spend weekends, near lake, good income daily to start lifetime, income assured. \$1,700. P.O. Box 974, Henderson, Nevada 89105.

ASSAYS. COMPLETE, accurate, guaranteed. Highest quality spectrographic. Only \$5.00 per sample. Reed Engineering, Box 121, Wrightwood, California 92397.

MONEY, ADVENTURE, sightseeing, share in all our profits by exciting spare time prospecting. Expense tax deductible. Current Exploration, Box 574, Gallup, New Mexico 87301.

ASSAYS: GOLD and silver—\$3.00, platinum—\$5.00, spectographs—\$5.00. Utah Assaying Co., Box 2276-D, Salt Lake City, Utah 84110.

• OLD COINS, STAMPS

CHOICE UNCIRCULATED SILVER DOLLARS: 1880-81 S Mint; 1883-4-5; 1898-99-1900-01-02-04 O Mint, \$5.00 each. The lot \$50.00. Illustrated catalogue 50c. Shultz, Salt Lake City, Utah 84110.

MEXICAN MINT COLLECTION \$1.00. Sample 25c. Ten-cent packets, mint or used: 12—\$1.00. World Quality Stamps, Box 9204, El Paso, Texas 79983.

• REAL ESTATE

GOVERNMENT LANDS . . . low as \$1.00 acre! Million acres! For exclusive "Government Land Buyer's Guide" plus "Land Opportunity Review" listing lands available throughout U.S., send \$1.00. Satisfaction guaranteed. United Lands, Box 19107-RK, Washington, D.C. 20036.

60 ACRES, all or part in beautiful Lanfair Valley, California. Contact W. M. Porter, P. O. Box 2098, Santa Cruz, California 95060.

HOW TO PLACE YOUR AD

★ Mail your copy and first-insertion remittance to: Trading Post, Desert Magazine, Palm Desert, California 92260. Classified rates are 25c per word, \$5 minimum per insertion.

DEADLINE FOR CLASSIFIED ADS IS 10TH OF SECOND MONTH PRECEDING COVER DATE.

● REAL ESTATE

GOVERNMENT LANDS: Low as \$1 acre. Millions acres! For exclusive "Copyrighted Report" plus "Land Opportunity Digest" listing lands throughout U.S.; and valuable 17x22" Treasure Map of U. S., send \$1.00. Land Disposal, Box 9091-DE, Washington, D.C. 20003. Satisfaction Guaranteed.

SOUTHERN UTAH. Invest now in Color-Country paradise, Bloomington Country Club lots, Kolob lots, ranches, farms, commercial, mobile home lots. Frank Pierce, Realty. Licensed Broker Utah and California. P.O. Box 12, St. George, Utah 84770. 310 East Tabernacle St. (801) 673-5000.

RETIREMENT CABIN, 2 1/2 acres, clean air, view, beautiful area. Owner, Box 35, Pinon Hills, California 92372

● TRAVEL

DEATH VALLEY and Desert Areas "Jeep" Photo-See Tours, 4225 Paseo de las Tortugas, Torrance, Calif. 90505. Paul H. Thompson, Photographer-Guide.

● TREASURE FINDERS

WHITE'S METAL DETECTORS. World's largest and finest line of mineral-metal detecting equipment. Find out how you can save on your equipment at Burnett Electronics, 24 N. Buena Vista Street, Redlands, Calif. 92373. Phone 792-6309. Bankamericard financing.

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP

Statement of ownership, management and circulation (Act of August 12, 1970: Section 3685. Title 39. United States Code).

1. Date of filing: September 15, 1971.
 2. Title of publication: DESERT Magazine.
 3. Frequency of issue: Monthly.
 4. Location of known office of publication: Palm Desert, Calif. 92260.
 5. Location of the headquarters or general business offices of the publishers: Palm Desert, California 92260.
 6. Names and addresses of publisher and editor: Publisher: William Knyvett, 79-890 Horse-shoe Rd., Indio, California 92201. Editor: Jack Pepper, 46-211 Willow St., Palm Desert, California 92260.
 7. Owners: Jack Pepper and William and Joyce Knyvett.
 8. Bondholders, mortgagers, security holders: None.
 9. In accordance with the provisions of this statute, I hereby request permission to mail the publication named in Item 1 at the reduced rate presently authorized by 39 U.S.C. 3626.
 11. Extent and nature of circulation: Average over 12 month period of issues from November 1970 to October 1971: 48,500 copies printed; paid circulation: 17,500 newsstands, 24,000 mail subscriptions, 41,500 total paid. 300 free distribution, 5,500 newsstand copies not sold, 47,300 total distribution; 1,200 office use, spoiled, etc.
- Actual number of copies of single issue published nearest to filing date. Total No. copies printed: 48,500; Paid circulation, newsstands, etc. 17,500; Mail subscriptions: 24,000; Total paid circulation: 42,300; Free distribution, samples, 300; Newsstand copies unsold: 5,500; Total distribution: 48,100; Office use, left-over, and spoiled after printing: 1400. Total: 48,500.

● TREASURE FINDERS

GOLD, SILVER, RELICS! Located with powerful Detectron Metal Detectors. Free information. Terms, Detectron, Dept. D-11, Box 243, San Gabriel, Calif. 91778.

GOLDAK Treasure Locators—Pleasure and profit in a hobby you'll enjoy. Find coins, relics, gold, silver. Charge on Bankamericard. Goldak, Dept. DM, 1101-A Airway, Glendale, California 91201.

GHOST TOWN EXPLORERS: Over 400 Mother Lode locations in "California Pioneer Towns," \$2.50 postpaid. Goldbug, Box 588-D, Alamo, Calif. 94507.

POWERFUL METROTECH locators detect gold, silver, coins, relics. Moneyback guarantee. Terms free information. Underground Explorations, Dept. 3A, Box 793, Menlo Park, Calif. 94025.

FIND BURIED TREASURE with revolutionary patented, analytical metal detector. Features push button and automatic tuning, negligible ground pickup, greatest range. Free catalogue. Gardiner Electronics Co., Dept. 51, 4729 N. 7th Ave., Phoenix, Arizona 85013.

FISHER DETECTORS has something new! Free literature. Fisher Research, Dept. D-11, Palo Alto, Calif. 94303.

FREE 128 page catalog on detectors, books and maps. General Electronic Detection Co., 16238 Lakewood Blvd., Bellflower, Calif. 90706.

TREASURE-METAL and mineral locators. Free 24 page booklet. GeoFinder Co., Box 37, Lakewood, Calif. 90714.

● TREASURE FINDERS

METAL LOCATORS: White's, Goldak, Detectron, Metrotech, Precision, Excelsior, Fisher. Free catalog. Aurora Prospector Supply, 6286 Beach Blvd., Buena Park, Calif. 90620 (714) 521-6321.

WILL YOU GAMBLE \$4.00 to save \$200? Build one or several detectors from our 20-page book "Build Transistor Treasure Detectors." Easily followed instructions. \$4.00. Trionics, Box 164, Brewer, Maine 04412.

● MISCELLANEOUS

YOU CAN OWN four of the most beautiful color pictures of Southwest Colorado ever photographed, 11x14"—\$3.50 per set postpaid. Lester Tinker Photo, Route 3, Box 290, Durango, Colo. 81301.

WANTED: OLD TOY trains made before 1942. Cash for any make or condition. Send description to Stan Macfarlan, 202 Calcita, Santa Cruz, Calif. 95060.

GUMMED NAME AND address labels: 1000—\$1, 3000—\$2.25. Two week delivery. C. Friday, 4705 Adam Road, Santa Susana, Calif. 93063.

AUTOMATICALLY STOP burning oil while driving. Results guaranteed. Motaloy, Box 5601, Los Angeles, Calif. 90055.

1000 DELUXE TWO-color name and address labels, gold stripe, boxed, \$1.00 postpaid. Carroll, 2100 Palm, Manhattan Beach, Calif. 90266.

Preserve Your Issues
For Travel Guides and
Reference in a

Desert
BINDER

Only \$3.50

Each library-style brown vinyl binder holds 12 issues of Desert Magazine. An ideal gift for friends who constantly refer to Desert as a source of information on all of the West.

**BE SURE TO STATE WHAT YEAR YOU WANT
PRINTED IN GOLD ON THE BINDER**

Desert SUBSCRIPTION FORM

11-71

PALM DESERT, CALIFORNIA 92260

ENTER A NEW SUBSCRIPTION

RENEW MY PRESENT SUBSCRIPTION

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

ZIP CODE _____

SEND GIFT SUBSCRIPTION TO:

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

Sign Gift Card: "From _____"

One Year \$5.00

Two Years \$9.50

Three Years \$13.00

(Or 2 One Years)

(Or Three One Years)

PAYMENT ENCLOSED

BILL ME LATER

ALSO SEND DESERT'S 12-ISSUE HANDSOME BROWN VINYL BINDER FOR \$3.50
(includes tax and postage)

Date Binder(s) with Year(s) _____ Undated



Warn M-8200 Winch

A new winch has been created by Warn Industries, international automotive accessory manufacturer and is "Warn-teed" for two years. The all-electric winch can be installed on any 2WD or 4WD vehicle with automatic or manual transmission. Cable is powered both in and out and has an automatic, positive break for complete control. Another new feature is the 10-foot cable (longer if needed) with remote control switch so the winch can be operated away from the vehicle.

For information on the winch and other Warn accessories write to Warn Industries, Dept. DM1, 18601 Pacific Highway, Seattle, Washington 98188.

Desert Shopper

New and interesting products

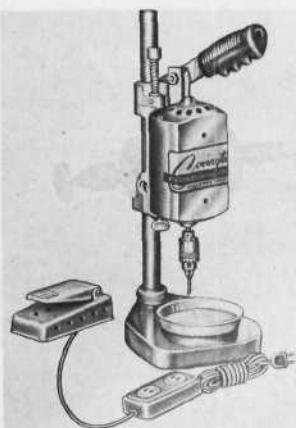
Items appearing in this column are not paid advertisements



New Cabover Model

Alaskan campers are now available in a cabover model, retaining all of the living features of the popular telescopic camper. The patented hydraulic control raises and lowers the entire unit, including the sleeping section. An innovation in the new design is folding panels on the sides of the cabover which allow instant emergency exits if required. The new models retain the familiar Alaskan low profile cutting down wind resistance, increasing driving safety and saving gas mileage.

For further information write or contact R. D. Hall Manufacturing, Dept. DM., 9847 Glenoaks Blvd., Sun Valley, California 91352.



Drill, Carver and Buffer

If you are in a hurry, or have a limited time to spend on your rock hobby, Covington's Diamond Drill, Carver and Buffer can solve your problem. The drill easily converts to a buffer or carver, has a high speed motor with foot-controlled speed, H.D. precision 1/4 inch Jacobs chuck, snappy return handle and is constructed with heavy duty castings.

For a free brochure on the Drill and other lapidary equipment write to Covington Engineering Corp., Dept. DM, 112 First Street, Redlands, California 92373.



Holiday Special

If you want to do some early Christmas shopping, the E24A Estwing Sportsman's Axe, listing at \$7.98, and the E2 matching Estwing Sportsman's Knife, listing at \$3.70, are now available at a Special Holiday Price of \$9.75 for the combination. They are available at most hardware and sporting goods stores.

For other items manufactured by the well-known company, write to Estwing Manufacturing Co., Dept. DM, 2647 Eighth Street, Rockford, Illinois 61101.



Cast Animal Tracks

Discovery and identification of animal tracks is a fun and educational pastime. Now an inexpensive kit is on the market enabling the family to make plaster casts of the animal tracks so they can be examined in more detail at home. Included in the kit are 1 1/2 pounds of quick-setting casting plaster, plastic shaker-mixer, instruction booklet and a Pocket Guide to Animal Tracks containing 60 illustrated pages of prints and descriptions of 44 North American animals. Kits are \$4.95 each.

Write MAYCO, Dept. DM., 6019 Monteverde, San Jose, Calif. 95120.

Letters to the Editor

Letters requesting answers must include stamped self-addressed envelope.



View Only . . .

Your interesting and attractive magazine has done a great deal to call attention to the historic and scenic sites of our Southwest. May we commend you for this public service.

No doubt you are frequently confronted with problems of vandalism and unwarranted destruction of our heritage, whether it be prehistoric Indian ruins or writings or ghost towns. Your August '71 edition has three articles dealing with historic sites. The "Utah Loop Trail" has particular interest to us here in Utah.

We are pleased to have the area advertised, but are anxious that people who visit view but do not vandalize. Our concern is at a peak point now, since one of the fine sites—a prehistoric painting of an elk or deer—has just been stenciled over with large black letters: "THIS IS PRIVATE PROPERTY—NO TRESPASSING."

Could you re-emphasize public responsibility in your magazine. After all, only if people care, can we preserve our past.

MELVIN T. SMITH,
Director,

Utah Dept. of Development Services.

Please Discontinue . . .

Please discontinue my subscription. As a self-named ecological reactionary, I cannot in good conscience support your beliefs concerning the desert and its relation to motorbikes and 4WD vehicles.

Despite a continual upgrading in form and content, Desert has been exceedingly lax in promoting active (indeed militant steps may be necessary) conservation of desert resources. Despite my position as a university graduate zoology student, I hold this conservative view, finding myself in agreement with such readers as Noel Kirk (Letters, August '71).

Editor's Note: Statements by readers in the Letters to the Editor page do not reflect the policy of Desert Magazine. We select letters so both sides of controversial issues will be presented. Desert Magazine, in its editorials and articles, has been preaching conservation for 30 years . . . and will continue to do so. See article in this issue.

Protected Species . . .

Relative to the letter from the Thomasons in the August '71 issue, they were right. The mountain lion has been protected in Utah in the only manner thought workable—by making them a game animal. Hopefully, this will slow down indiscriminate slaughter of a beautiful and beneficial animal.

In 25 years of exploring in our desert country we have seen only one puma. I grew up in the Book Cliffs country which is probably the last haven for the big cat. I am not angry with you, just disgusted with hunters on horses with high-powered rifles following hounds to shoot a treed animal.

MRS. R. J. ANDERSON,
Salt Lake City, Utah.

Desert Gets Around . . .

On a round-the-world freighter trip, one of your subscribers from Yucaipa, California, brought a number of older copies of your magazine aboard for everyone to read.

Since we live in desert country, we liked the magazine so well we wish to become a subscriber.

LAURENE E. TOTTEN, D.M.D.,
Prescott, Arizona.



Railroad hot rod . . .

No Flat Tires . . .

For many years I have been a subscriber and avid reader of your high quality periodical. In going through the old family album I noted some snapshots that took me back to the winter of 1916-17 in Johannesburg, Calif. The picture is of my father, Harry V. Douglas, who was conductor and his engineer, Leslie Richardson, who was responsible for the motor car pictured and its run twice daily to connect with the Santa Fe mainline at Kramer Junction. Its purpose was to carry passengers, mail and possibly a few supplies for the Teagle Mercantile. The Teagles ran the only hotel and restaurant in Johannesburg, in conjunction with the mercantile store. The Motor Car broke down frequently and while it was in the shop, the old reliable steam train came to the rescue. This service, I believe, was discontinued around 1920.

H. V. DOUGLAS, D.M.D.,
Bakersfield, Calif.

Mission Site . . .

In response to the letter from Mike Carmichael in the September issue, Father Francisco Garces founded two missions on the lower Colorado in 1779: Purisima Concepcion and San Pedro y San Pablo. The first was on the California side of the river, directly opposite modern-day Yuma, at the approximate site of the present Saint Thomas Indian Mission. The location of the second, though, is disputed. Most historians believe it was about eight miles downstream from Yuma. However, there is a local tradition, as Carmichael suggests, that it was upstream near Laguna Dam.

Treasure hunters have combed the area quite thoroughly and, as a consequence, I don't believe the archeological expedition that Carmichael proposes would be too productive.

Both missions were destroyed during the Quechan rebellion in 1781, only two years after they had been established. San Pedro y San Pablo was completely obliterated and no evidence of its exact location has ever been found.

JOHN LAWLOR,
Studio City, California.

To A Point . . .

In your August '71 issue, Mr. Noel Kirk complains bitterly about motorcycle noise. I must say that I agree with him to a certain point. I, myself, am a 4WD and motorcycle fan and own both. However, I do not feel that someone should enjoy a sport at the discomfort of someone else.

Off-road vehicles, in general, have grown astronomically in recent years. Laws have been passed in this same period to try and control this growth. Many of these laws people are not aware of. The State and National forestry services have always maintained strict laws pertaining to off-road vehicles such as keeping on trails, not riding bikes in campgrounds, noise abatement, etc. The Bureau of Land Management also has restrictions, but lacks the manpower to really enforce them.

Almost every county in Southern California has passed laws making it illegal to operate off-road vehicles on private property without written permission from the owner. It should be pointed out that many land owners did not object to others using their property, providing they respected it.

The point I am trying to make is that areas are needed not only to support this form of recreation, but to preserve other interests as well. The first question that arises is where is this money coming from.

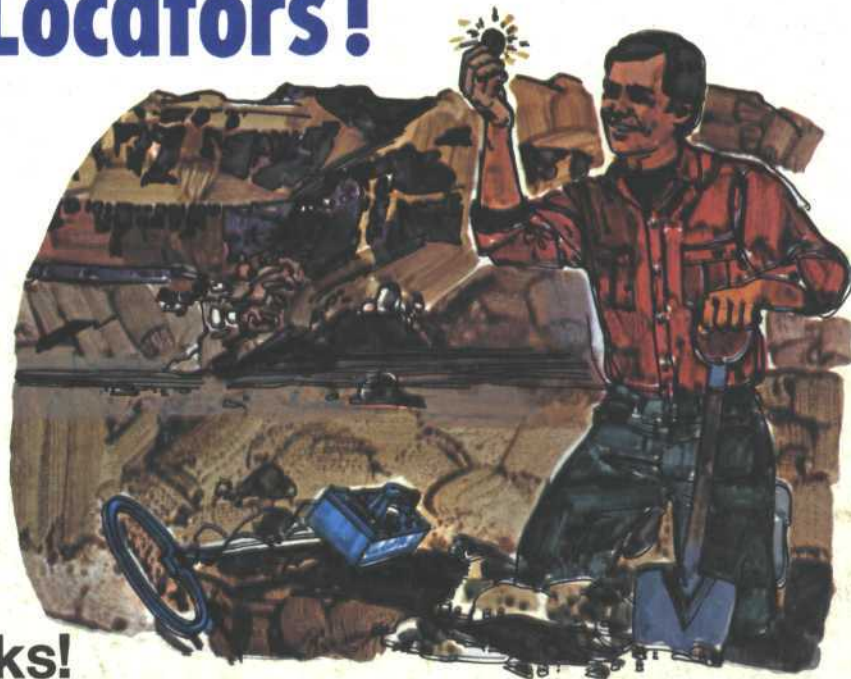
Since most off-road vehicles are driven solely off the road, the 11 cent road tax that is being paid now could be a form of revenue. Second, California is in the process of licensing off-road vehicles and some of these monies could be used. I enjoy the desert as well as the next person—and I hope we can all enjoy it together.

NORMAN PEDERSEN,
Bellflower, California.

A Complete Line of Metal Locators by **JETCO**[®] the Leading Manufacturer of Metal Locators!

**America's fastest
growing Hobby!
Fun for the whole family!**

DISCOVERS!
• Relics • Riches • Coins
• Gold • Silver • Metals
• Powerful & Sensitive—
locates through wood,
water, sand, dirt and rocks!



LOOK AT THESE FEATURES!

- Solid State Circuitry (All Transistor) — Made in USA
- Lightweight — perfect balance
- Waterproof Searchloops
- Adjustable Aluminum stems
- Big 5 Year Warranty
- Detailed Instructions
- Shipped with fresh Batteries

FREE! A 60 Page Book
"101 Treasure Sites"...
with every locator!

Send for a FREE COLOR CATALOG of JETCO
Treasure Finders, Fish Locators, Depth Finders,
Dog Trainers... ORDER TODAY!

BUY JETCO... IT'S THE BEST!

JETCO[®]
JETCO ELECTRONIC INDUSTRIES, INC.
P. O. BOX 132, HUNTSVILLE, TEXAS 77340

 <p>The Mustang[®] \$39⁹⁵</p> <p>Economy & accuracy too! Performance plus dependability</p>	 <p>GTO Searchmaster[®] \$69⁹⁵</p> <p>Easy to operate! 10 transistors</p>
 <p>GTX Huntmaster[®] \$99⁹⁵</p> <p>Precision tuning plus 11 transistors.</p>	 <p>Treasure Hawk[®] \$129⁹⁵</p> <p>16 Transistors The most powerful & super sensitive locator available!</p>
<p>RUSH ME A <input type="checkbox"/> MUSTANG — \$39.95 + \$1.50 Postage <input type="checkbox"/> GTO SEARCH-MASTER — \$69.95 + \$2.00 Postage <input type="checkbox"/> GTX HUNTMASTER — \$99.95 + \$2.00 Postage <input type="checkbox"/> TREASURE HAWK — \$129.95 + \$2.00 Postage. (Enclose Check or Money Order) ALL UNITS IN STOCK • IMMEDIATE SHIPMENT. JETCO ELECTRONIC INDUSTRIES, INC., P. O. BOX 132, HUNTSVILLE, TEXAS 77340.</p> <p>NAME _____</p> <p>ADDRESS _____</p> <p>CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ DM</p>	